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BLUE JAY

December 1989

Suggestions from the Blue Jay Booksh

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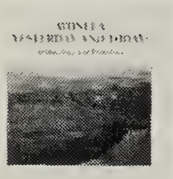
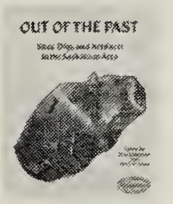
AVONLEA YESTERDAY AND TODAY: Archaeology and Prehistory. Edite Leslie B. Davis. 1988. The proceedings of a posium held in Regina this volume contains p which deal with every aspect of the Avonlea ma culture whose type site is located 50 miles sou Moose Jaw in southern Saskatchewan. 313 pp. $2 softcover



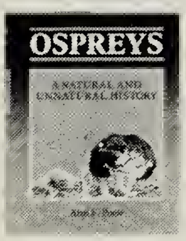
OUT OF THE PAST: Sites, Digs and Artifacts in the Saskatoon Area. Edite Urve Linnamae and Tim E. H. Jones. 1988. This presents a major collection of papers on archae in the Saskatoon area but its material is of interest Saskatchewan residents. It is a solid contribution ongoing effort of interpretation and presenting the of our past. 191 pp. **$15.95** softcover



FROZEN IN TIME: Unlocking the secrets of the Franklin Expedition. Owen B and John Geiger. 1988. From the ice-shrouded gr three 19th-century seamen reveal the chilling fate doomed Arctic expedition. A superb account color photographs of the grave sites. 179 pp. $ hardcover

WOLVES. Candace Savage. 1988. A photographic essay of the wolf, once the widely distributed land mammal in the w Together the dramatic photographs, maps and ser text create a celebration of wolves and serve reminder that the reality of nature is infinitely fascinating than myth. 159 pp. **$35.00** hardcove

OSPREYS: A natural and unnatural history. Alan F. Poole. 1989. In a cle entertaining style, the author tkes an up-to-date l the natural history of this popular bird. The osp a major symbol of international conservation, w populations once threatened but now restored in New England and Scotland. Includes photo sketches. 272 pages. **$34.00** hardcover.



THE ARCTIC WOLF - LIVING WITH THE PACK. L. David Mech. 1988. This docuements the authors experiences with the wolf on Ellesmere Island and provides val docuementation of wolf behaviour and of variou dents in the life of the wolf pack. 100 full color p 128 pages. List price of $19.95; **Special price of $** softcover.

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THIS ORGANIZATION RECEIVES FUNDING FROM

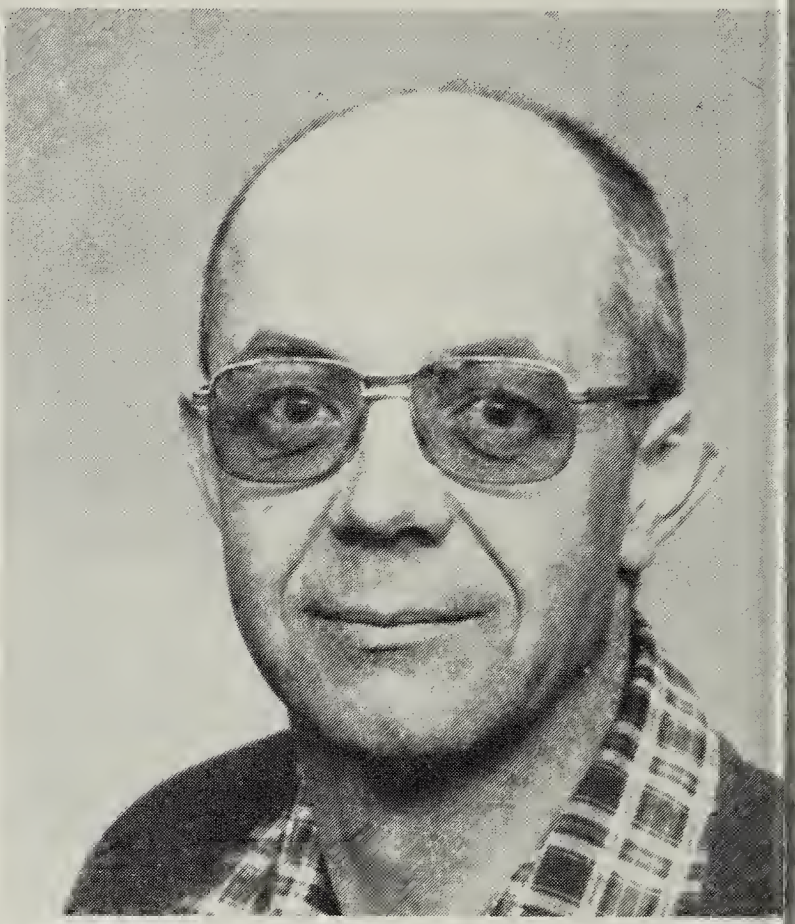
SASKATCHEWAN
LOTTERIES

SASKATCHEWAN BIRD BANDERS -- WILLIAM ANAKA*

C. STUART HOUSTON, 863 University Drive, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.S7

Bill Anaka banded birds at and near the Anaka family farm (nw quarter of section 12, township 29, range 5) for 16 years, from 1955 through 1970. This farm was on the grid road just over a mile north of Highway 229, where it curves slightly around the north end of Horseshoe Lake, and was 2.5 miles east of Spirit Lake Post Office, which was at the extreme southern tip of Good Spirit Lake.

Bill attended Black Poplar school, three miles from home, for grades 1 to 10. He avidly devoured every nature book in the school library. He then operated the 480-acre family farm jointly with his father. Later he completed high school by attending evening classes at the Yorkton Regional High School for three years.



Bill Anaka *Avalon S*

In 1968, he took a job with the Good Spirit Lake Regional Park, and soon after sold 160 acres of his farm to the park. He has continued to farm one quarter section of the home farm, which includes 40 acres of untouched natural habitat. He has seeded the former cropped area to grass.

Bill made a special effort to band herons, bitterns, raptors and corvids as nestlings, and banded small birds that visited his feeding station. In all, 1723
birds of 51 species were bande
a satisfying number of recoveri
the larger birds. However, there v
recoveries from six of the species
contributed high totals: Dar
Junco, 277; White-throated S
(153); White-crowned Sparrow
cluding 40 *gambelii* and 1 *leuc*
subspecies); Common Redpoll
Tree Swallow (35); Snow Buntin

At the nearby Horseshoe Lake
ry, Bill banded nestling Grea
Herons in five different yea
banded only in those nests that w
too far out on dead branches, w
maximum numbers of 24 in 19

---

* Number 14 in a series of biographies of Saskatchewan bird banders

n 1964, although there were, for nple, 24 nests in the colony with e young each in 1965. From a total 3 nestlings banded, there were four veries, all during the fall or winter banding: found dead south of ton, Saskatchewan; found dead in veport, Louisiana; shot the same er in Fresnillo, Zacatecas, Mexico; found dead near Dallas Texas.

23 nestling American Bitterns ed, one was killed when it flew a power line near Canwood, Sask-ewan, reported in a letter nearly years later, while another was dead at Goodwater, Alabama, 4.5 hs after it was banded.

22 Northern Harriers banded, one shot the same year near Blakely, gia, and another was shot a year banding near Woodbury, Georgia. f 38 banded Cooper's Hawks, one eported as found dead southwest uk Centre, Minnesota, in a letter nearly four years later. Of four nson's Hawks, one was eved" at Elmendorf, Texas, on 19 of the year after banding.

From 10 Long-eared Owls banded, one was recovered near Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, Mexico; this was reported in a letter written five years later. Of 27 banded Great Horned Owls, three were found dead within a mile or so of the banding site.

Four reports came from 108 Black-billed Magpies banded; one was shot near the banding site and one was trapped near Mikado, Saskatchewan, the same year, while one was caught in a trap near Hyas and another was shot at Moorepark, Manitoba, over a year after banding. From 175 Common Crows, there were eight recoveries: individuals shot during their first southward migration at Seward, Kansas, and Waller, Texas, and during the second winter at Albert, Oklahoma. Two were shot less than ten miles from the banding site, 1 to 2.5 months after fledging, but three others returned to be shot three years later, within two miles of the nest in which they had been fledged.

From four Rusty Blackbirds, one banded during migration on 30 October 1956 was found dead at Hecla,

1. NUMBERS OF BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE BAND RETURNS

Years After Banding									Total	Number	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Returns	Banded	Trapped
										24	24
12									12	13	25
3	9								12	19	31
11	2	7							20	15	35
7	4	2	7						20	10	30
4	6	4	2	5					21	14	35
6	5	3	3	2	4				23	17	40
3	5	1	2	1	1	2			15	8	23
4	2	3	1		2	1	2		15	21	36
8	1		1					1	11	11	22
3	4	1			1				9	25	34
8	3	3	1						15	28	43
9	5		2						16	29	45
78	46	24	19	8	8	3	2	1	189	234	423

South Dakota, on 4 February 1957. From 85 Harris' Sparrows banded, an immature banded on 30 September 1955 was found at Lake Overholser, Bethany, Oklahoma, on 1 March 1957.

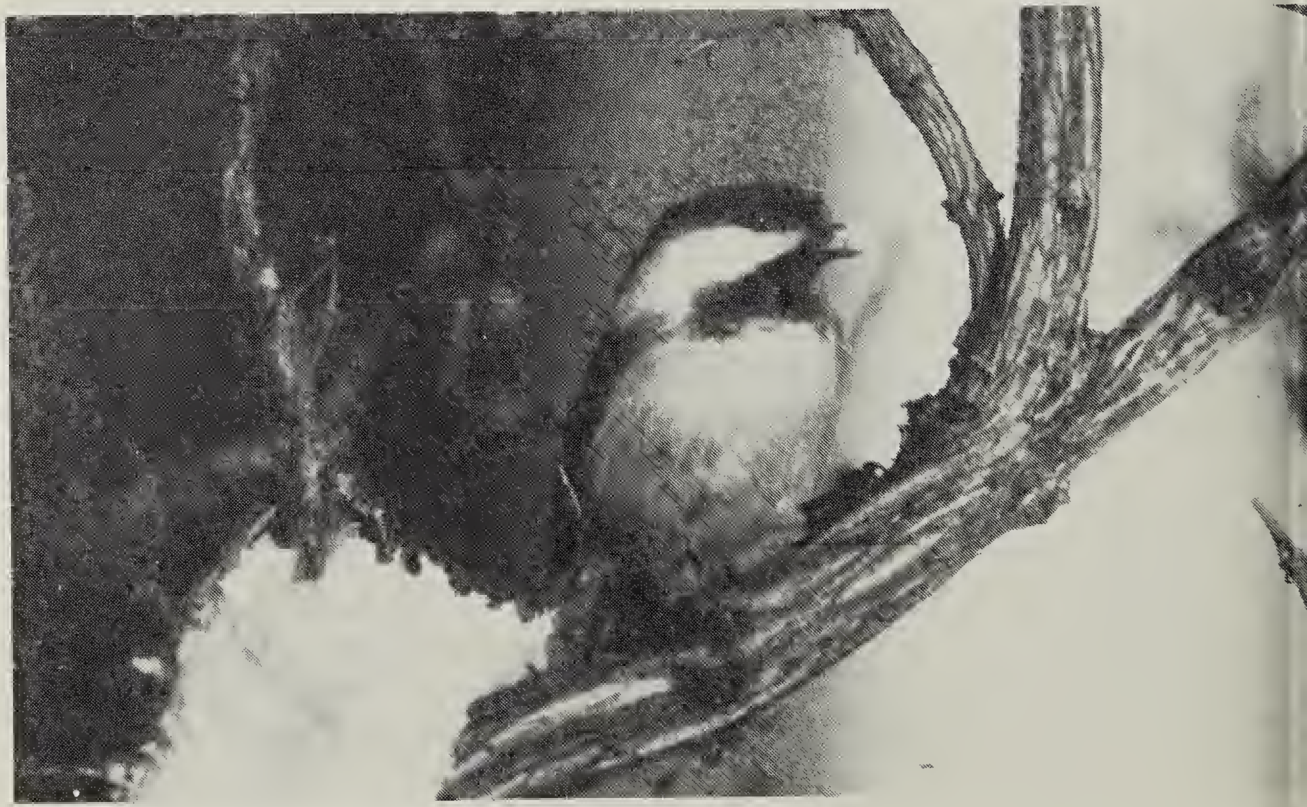
Recaptures of Black-capped Chickadees provide a good idea of the longevity of these little birds. Of the 234 chickadees banded, there were 87 chickadees recaptured on 188 occasions a year or more after banding (Table 1) and two that were fatalities at the banding station, one of which was tangled in a mesh suet bag. There were 33 birds that returned last at 1 year, 25 at 2, 10 at 3, 9 at 4, 3 each at 5, 6 and 7 years and 1 each at 8 and 9 years after banding. The 9-year-old chickadee equalled the greatest longevity encountered at Columbia, Missouri, by Elder and Zimmerman but is well short of the North American record, held by a chickadee banded by the late Dr. John K. Kennard at Bedford, New Hampshire, at 12 years, 5 months.[1] [2]

It was strictly coincidental tha ceased bird banding prior to his riage to his neighbor and fe naturalist, Joyce Gunn, on 25 Se ber 1971. They have since reside the original Gunn homestead, within Good Spirit Lake Provincial Bill has been contributing regula notes to Audubon Field Notes, named American Birds, since 195 and Joyce were joint editors of the Jay News from 1973 through Joyce and her mother operate Spirit Lake rural post office until Bill retired from service with the p cial park in 1987.

---

[1] ELDER, W. H. and D. ZIMMER 1983. A comparison of recapture resighting data in a 15-year study vivorship of the black-capped chic *J. Field Ornithol.* 54:138-145.

[2] CLAPP, R.B., M.K. KLIMKIEWIC A.G. FUTCHER. 1983. Longevity r of North American birds: Colum through Paridae. *J. Field Ornithol.* 5 137.



Black-capped Chickadee

Lorn

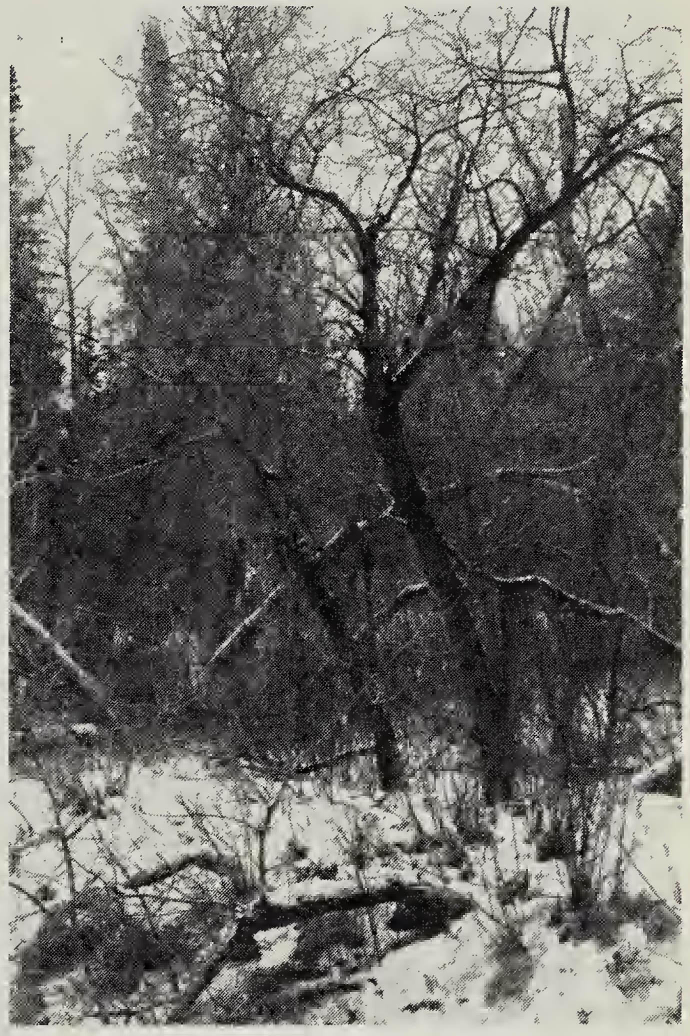
ANITOBA MAPLE NEAR LA RONGE, ASKATCHEWAN

VARD HARRIS, Resource Officer, Saskatchewan Parks, Recreation and
ure, Box 970, Hudson Bay, Saskatchewan. S0E 0Y0

ıring the early winter of 1987 (6
ember 1987) while checking ac-
to a potential sawtimber area along
Bow River, a small stand of
itoba Maple was found. Several
; were growing by a bend of the
. Alluvial deposits are probably
mon.

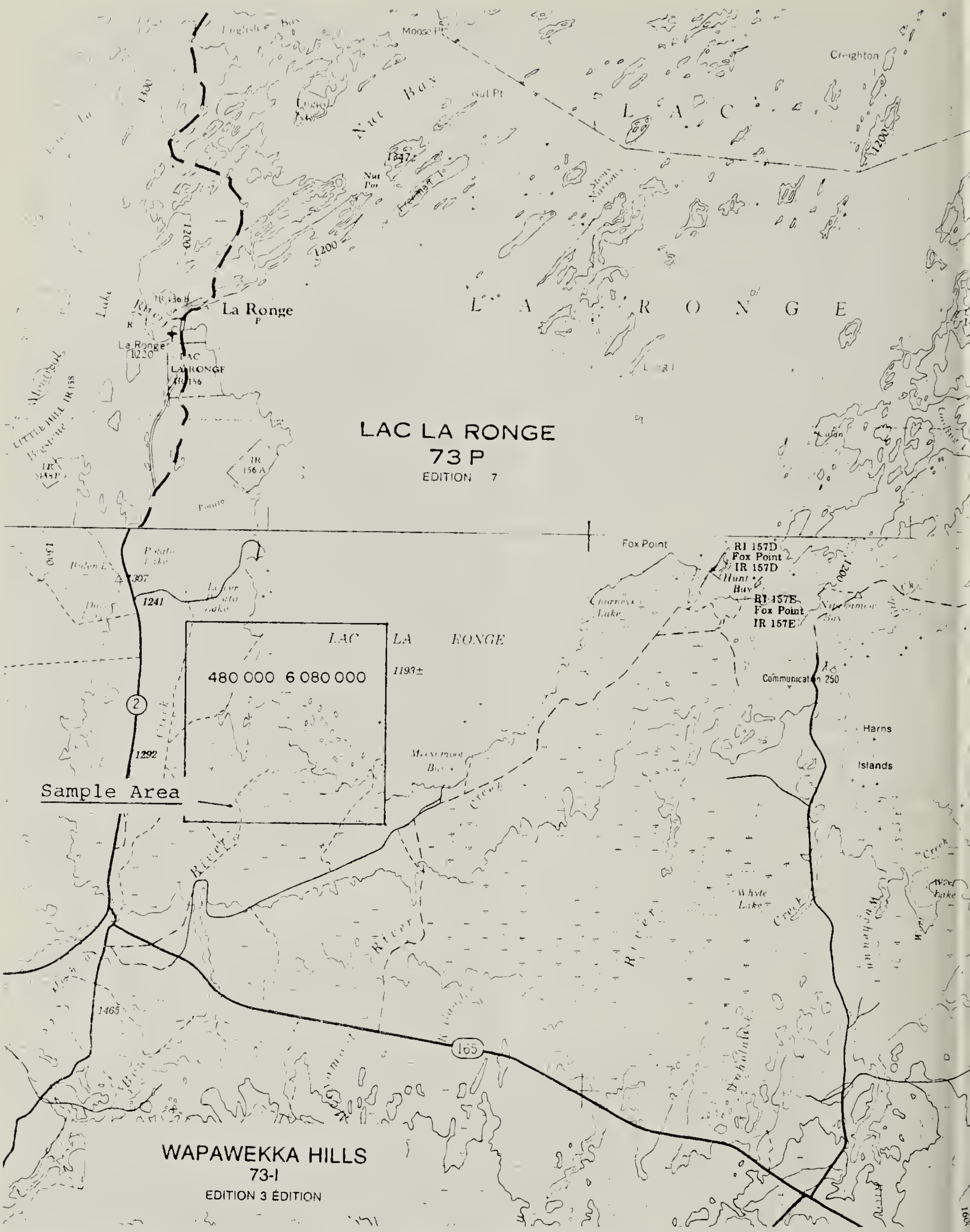
cation of site: 25 km, Azmith 177°
town of La Ronge, UTM Z13
67 N608063, latitude 54° 47′ 30″
)n 2 December 1987 an aerial
nnaissance revealed several sites
this point down river and all along
ower reaches of the channel to Lac
nge.

e diameters were taken at breast
ht and were 22.9, 43.5, 22.0 cm.
sampled trees were estimated to
from 7.6 - 9.1 m high. One tree
ampled for age and found to con-
0 - 72 annual rings at 0.3 m stump
t. With a correction factor of +2
for maple, the estimated age was
74 years (H.J. Desjarlais, pers.
n.). Twig cuttings and samaras
also collected.



Manitoba Maple on Bow River
E.H. Harris

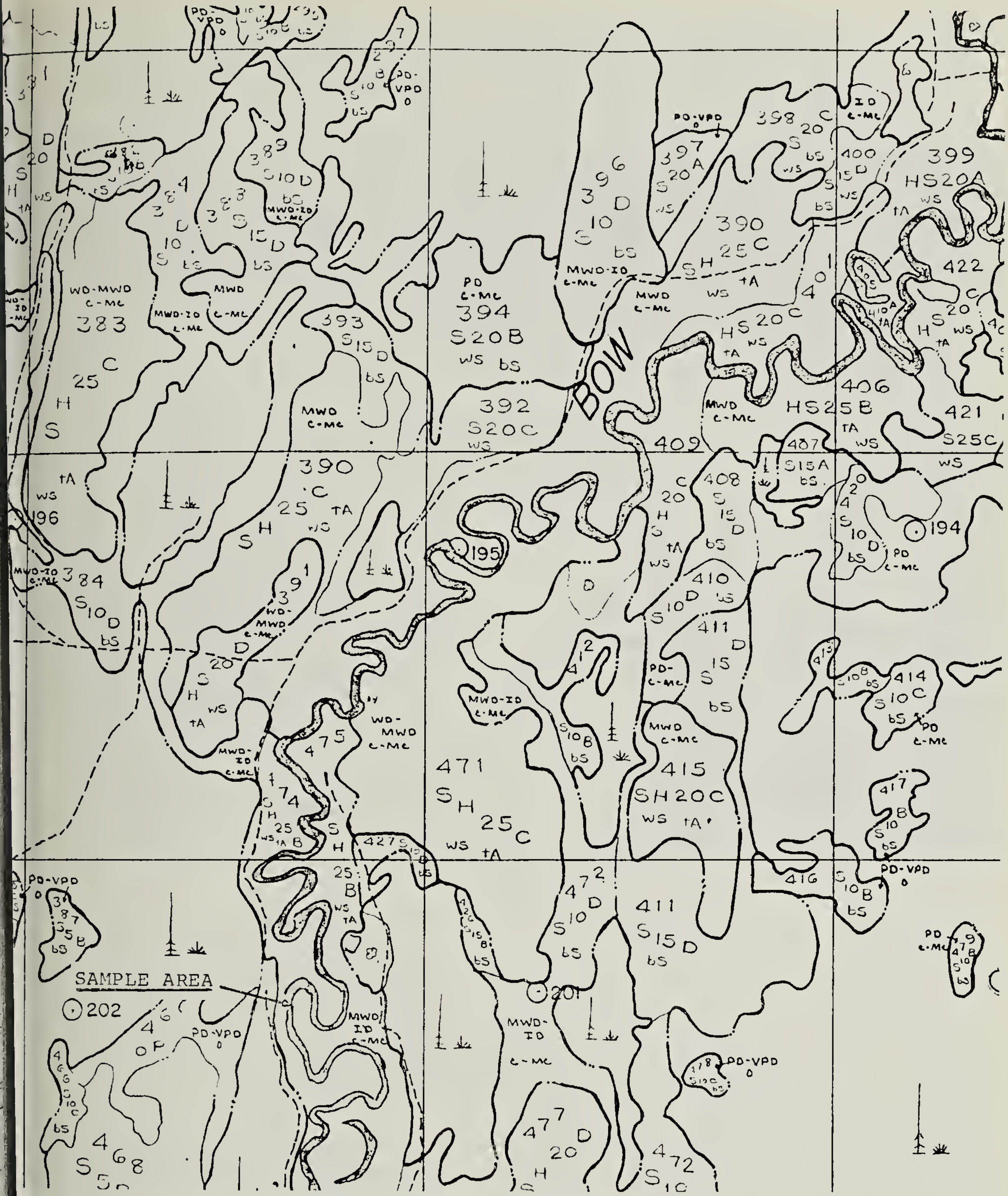
site and the others along the river
La Ronge are approximately 370
ve sea level; the trees are probab-
wing on alluvial sites. At this point
is what appears to be a levee on
est side of the river and the maxi-
distance the species is found
ng from the river appears not to
d 50 meters. A cross section of the
would reveal that no deep valley
but that it cuts through level land.
ea through which the river flows
his point is comprised of swamp and supports Black Spruce with other commercial species in association. White Spruce and aspen dominate any higher ground with better drainage (including the levee). The area is described as Southern Boreal, Upper Churchill ecological region, in what is a glacial lake bottom.[1] [2]The area immediately to the south varies from 375 to 460 m above sea level and appears not to support any Manitoba Maple along the river. No reports were received during the intensive salvage logging operations conducted in the McKenzie Burn from 1980 to 1983. However, verbal



Location of sample area (Topographic Series map)

report of this species growing in the Wapawekka Hills, possibly along the base at a similar elevation has been received (K. Dahl, pers. comm.). An additional report was received in the spring of 1988 of this species growing along the Mossey River on the east slope of the Cub Hills (G. Frey and D. Brown, SPRC, pers. comm.). However official publications do not record this species as growing far north of th katchewan River outside o Manitoba lowlands.[3]

Why this species exists in s remote area and whether or not it in other isolated pockets may b answered by further investigation information as the location of th cial lake shoreline, temper



on of sample area on Forest Inventory map

nce of the species and ability of to influence local climate may le answers in the future.

ection of this site and all along the o Lac La Ronge should be con- ed. Incorporation into the La Provincial Park may be one solu-

wledgements

reciation is expressed to Henry rlais and Greg Anderson (deceased), who reviewed the manuscript.

---

[1] DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT 1966. Native trees of Canada. Bull. 61. 291 pp.

[2] HARRIS, W.C., A. KABZEMS, A.L. KOSOWAN, G.A. PADBURY and J.S.

ROWE 1983. Ecological regions of Saskatchewan. Sask. Parks and Renewable Resources Tech. Bull. No. 10. 57 pp.

³ RICHARDS, J.H. and K.I. FUNG ›9 Atlas of Saskatchewan. Dept. of ›g raphy, U. of Sask., Saskatoon. 236

Aerial view of Manitoba Maple location *Edward rri*

PROJECT BIRDWATCH

The Saskatchewan Natural History Society has available limited funds to reimburse expenses (fuel and lodging) to a **maximum of $100 per application** for birdwatchers collecting data between 1 June and 1 August for use in Society publications, particularly for The Birds of Saskatchewan.

Data collected north of 55° latitude on bird species, numbers, habitat, behaviour, evidence of breeding will all be useful, but particularly important are the general areas a) Buffalo Narrows to Cluff Lake and b) Besnard Lake to Pinehouse Lake to Key Lake. Other areas will also be of interest; please enquire if you are going to any unusual birding location in the province.

Information being sought includes date and time in the area; weather, habitat, species detected and, where po ble, numbers; species singing, young se and other indications of nesting; f cks, photos, etc. Individuals will be ven credit for data used.

Up to two people on any one tr will be eligible for reimbursement. Indi uals making more than one trip may ply each time but preference will be g n to first-time applicants. If you wish t ply for funds, please contact, PREFERA IN ADVANCE, either:
Mary Gilliland [902 University Dri Sas katoon, SK. S7N 0K1; PH. (306 52- 5970] OR **Bernie Gollop** [220 Yor Avenue, Saskatoon, SK. S7J 1J1; PH 06 343-1027].

Results of the trip and receipts fu and lodging should be submitted on with request for reimbursement t lar Gilliland NO LATER THAN 10 A US 1990.

RD OBSERVATIONS AT RANKIN LET, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

KE KOROL, 613 Temperance Street, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. S7N 0M4

uring a study of the feeding ecology eregrine Falcons, the author spent May through August 1988 in the mmunity of Rankin Inlet, (62^{0} 48'N 05'W) 450 km n of Churchill, itoba on the western shore of Hud- Bay. The landforms present in the y area included inland outcrops, rs, coastal flats and beaches, and erous islands (Fig. 1). Fresh water abundant in the larger rivers, iadine and Diana, lakes and many low ponds. Lowland areas flood in g and early summer but were largely dry by mid-summer. These areas dominated by sedges (*Carex* spp.) cottongrasses (*Eriophorum* spp.). mmon herbs of upland areas included White Mountain-avens (*Dryas integrifolia*), Broad-leaved Willow-herb (*Epilobium latifolium*) and Three-toothed Saxifrage (*Saxifraga tricuspidata*). Dominant woody species were Labrador Tea (*Ledum decumbens*), Lapland Rosebay (*Rhododendron lapponicum*), and various willows (*Salix* spp.).

Bird observations began 6 May and were recorded daily until 21 August. Areas where the greatest numbers of birds were seen were the town dump and just south of it, Pond 1, and beaches along the sw shore of Thomson Island (Fig. 1). Pond 1 was visited nearly every day in June, usually in the evening. Bird

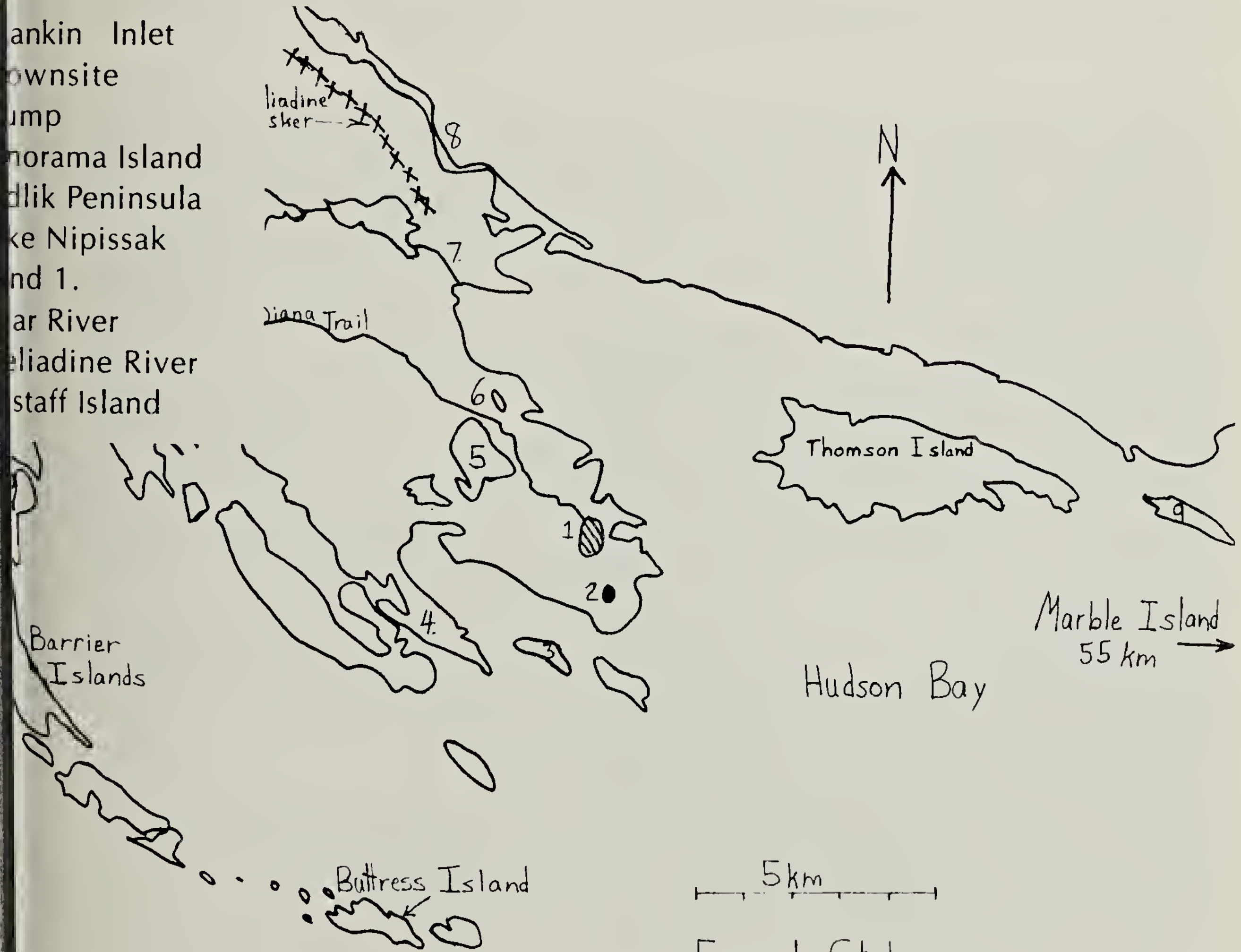


Figure 1. Study area

sightings from other locations were made casually during field work and during systematic biweekly bird surveys carried out to determine prey availability for Peregrine Falcons.

Species List

The following is a list of 47 species observed by the author. Bird names and order follow those of Godfrey.[1] The date of first observations, breeding evidence, and migration notes are reported. In the species accounts the following terms are used:

transient - seen for less than a two-week period or in migration only

resident - seen at various times throughout the season or year

common - seen on at least 10 occasions

uncommon - seen between five and nine occasions

scarce - seen on fewer than five occasions

vagrant - species far beyond normal range

* - breeding evidence found by author

Pair of Snow Geese, one white and one blue form *G.W. Beyersbergen*

Red-throated Loon — Scarce re
First recorded 26 July whe
adults were seen on a fresh
pond on the e end of the
Peninsula. Two adults were
pond on Marble Island 31 July
adult was observed 21 Augu
Hudson Bay on the s side
Tudlik Peninsula.

Pacific Loon — Common residen
recorded 15 June when two
were seen 3 km nw of town.
observations were mainly on
ponds and lakes in June and Ju
were more frequently noted or
son Bay in August. A pair wa
on Marble Island 31 July.

Common Loon — Scarce transien
adults were seen on a lake alo
Diana Trail 8 km nw of town 2

(*?)*Tundra Swan* — Common re
A pair was first seen 5 June fl
over the Barrier Islands. From
to 9 July, 10 to 13 pairs were
regularly on Pond 1 with a p
33 birds 16 June. In late July
August fewer were seen on v
inland ponds and lakes. Cou
displays were noted 18 June or
1.

Greater White-fronted Goose —
transient. One bird was seen
mixed flock of Canada and
Geese flying n 5 June.

Snow Goose — Common transien
sighting of two birds flying n 2
All birds in June were flying
were usually in mixed floc
white and blue morphs. Peak
bers were on 1 and 23 June
approximately 625 and 224
respectively, were seen. Occ
sightings of flying mixed flock
also noted in July and August

nt — Scarce transient. One individual was feeding on the w shore of Pond 1 with a flock of Canada geese 19 and 20 June.

nada Goose — Common resident. A lock of eight was seen 25 May and lmost daily to mid-July. June birds were mostly in flocks flying n with ver 1500 birds seen 21 June. Nests were found 17 June (three eggs) on uttress Island and 20 June (five ggs) on Falstaff Island. Five downy oung were at a nest 5 km nw of ankin Inlet in early August.

rthern Pintail — Common resident. rst seen 5 June and regularly on land ponds throughout June and ly but becoming more irregular in ugust. Flightless young were ob- rved on Marble Island 31 July.

er Scaup — Uncommon resident. vo drakes were seen on an open tch of water on the mostly frozen ke Nipissak 3 June. Drakes were on Pond 1 in mid-June. The only pair seen was on an inland pond 30 June.

**Common Eider* — Common resident. A pair was on open water on Hudson Bay 13 June 2 km nw of town. Birds were regular in low numbers throughout the summer on both fresh and sea water. Noted on Marble Island 31 July. A hen with young was seen on Hudson Bay near Falstaff Island 4 August.

King Eider — Uncommon resident. A pair was seen 8 June on Pond 1. Highest numbers occurred 19 June when five pairs and a lone drake were observed on Pond 1 as well as eight adults flying over the Meliadine River.

**Oldsquaw* — Common resident. Three were seen on a patch of unfrozen water on Lake Nipissak 3 June. This species was recorded daily in July and less regularly in August on both salt and fresh water. A nest (eight

ider *G.W. Geyersbergen*

eggs) was found on the s bank of the Meliadine River 19 June. A hen with seven young was seen near town 18 July. This species was also recorded on Marble Island 31 July.

Red-breasted Merganser — Common resident. Three pairs were first seen on an unfrozen patch of Lake Nipissak 3 June. Present in low numbers on both salt and fresh water throughout June and July but no sightings were made in August. One was on Marble Island 31 July.

**Rough-legged Hawk* — Common resident. First recorded 7 May near Panorama Island. After mid-May they were seen regularly, most often near islands and larger inland outcrops. On 21 June a nest (five eggs) was found on Thomson Island. On 3 July a nest (four eggs) was found 9 km w of town. Flightless young were seen in mid-August on Panorama Island.

**Peregrine Falcon* — Common resident. Arrival was 21 May and, excepting days when bad weather prevented travel, the species was seen daily after this. An average of just over three eggs per nest was recorded in 17 active nests. Forty young were banded, the majority of which fledged. A nest on Panorama Island was the closest to town and likely the site most disturbed by human activity. A full clutch of four eggs was laid and all four young fledged there.

Rock Ptarmigan— Uncommon resident. First sighted 11 May when 14 individuals were seen s of the town dump. On 13 May 31 birds were seen there, but this area had fewer birds until 21 May when they were last recorded. The only other sighting was 7 June when a male that had just begun to moult was seen 3 w of town.

Sandhill Crane — Common resi First observed 17 May when a g of nine was seen flying n 8 km town. Seen or heard regul throughout the entire summer or mainland and the larger islands.

**Lesser Golden-Plover* — Scarce dent. One adult was recorded or Diana Trail 13 km w of town 4 Two adults and three young seen 21 July on the Meliadine 8 km nw of town. An adult was h in a wet sedge area 2 August 3 k of town.

**Semipalmated Plover* — Com resident. First seen 1 June 1 km Rankin Inlet. Seen regu throughout summer on main and islands. A nest (four eggs) found 4 July along the Diana Tr km nw of town. Immatures seen on Marble Island 31 July.

Ruddy Turnstone — Scarce tran Two adults were on a beach or sw side of Thomson Island 12 ar June.

Ruddy Turnstone on nest

Wayne Re

derling — Scarce transient. Three horebirds tentatively identified as his species were seen 5 June on an ipland gravel ridge 4 km nw of own.

nipalmated Sandpiper — Common esident. Seen regularly beginning 8 une on mainland and islands, most ften near water. Recorded on arble Island 31 July. A nest (four gs) was found 25 June on the s ank of the Meliadine River. Young ere seen 16 July in the same loca- on.

te-rumped Sandpiper — Scarce ansient. Seen s of town dump and sw Thomson Island between 7 nd 15 June. Seven adults were corded 11 June on Thomson Is- nd.

's Sandpiper — Scarce transient. corded 1 June when two adults were seen 4 km w of town. Eleven were seen on sw Thomson Island 11 June. Last record was one adult on Thomson Island 12 June.

Pectoral Sandpiper — Scarce transient. Only record is of one adult on the w shore of Lake Nipissak 19 July.

Purple Sandpiper — Scarce transient. Two adults were seen on Marble Island 31 July.

Dunlin — Scarce transient. Only record is 11 June when two adults were seen on sw Thomson Island.

Red-necked Phalarope — Uncommon transient. One adult was seen s of the town dump 12, 13, 15 and 17 June. Five adults were seen there 19 June.

Red Phalarope — Scarce transient. Ten adults were seen on sw Thomson Island 11 June and six adults 12 June.

almated Sandpiper *Wayne Renaud*

Four adults were also seen s of the town dump 12 June and one adult 13 June.

**Parasitic Jaeger* — Scarce resident. Pair first seen 7 June, then throughout the summer, never far from the same area. Repeated dives at me by an adult during a search 2 August would suggest a nest although none was found. A group of five birds, believed to be this species, was seen flying over the Char River 16 July.

**Herring Gull* — Common resident. First recorded for the year 19 May when 38 were seen at the town dump. Recorded in large numbers daily throughout summmer both on the mainland and islands. Birds were seen on Marble Island 31 July. A nest (three eggs) was found 5 km nw of town 5 July.

Thayer's Gull — Scarce transient. Only records are of one bird in town 9 June, one bird s of the town dump 12 June, and one bird just n of town 13 June.

Glaucous Gull — Common resident (?). A group of nine birds was first seen 23 May at the town dump. Seen regularly in low numbers in the dump area from then until 22 June but absent until 26 July when one bird was seen.

**Black Guillemot* — Common resident. First sighting was 20 July when seven birds were seen swimming on Hudson Bay. Seen daily afterwards, always near salt water. Recorded on Marble Island 31 July. A nesting colony was found on Buttress Island 9 August. Most nests had two eggs.

Snowy Owl — Uncommon resident. Singles observed 7 and 17 May, 4 July, and 5 and 6 August.

Short-eared Owl — Scarce tran One seen 16 June 4 km w of On 2 June a pair of Peregrine Fa was seen feeding on this speci Panorama Island.

Eastern Kingbird — Vagrant. Or these unusual visitors was see July south of the town dump. tification of this species was on the following characters: a blackish, thin-billed bird of c size and with a definite bar white on the tip of the tail fea The author is very familiar wit species from birding in s katchewan.

**Horned Lark* — Common resi First seen 26 May and almost thereafter in and out of town. Y were seen in early July and feeding young were noted 8 Ju

Common Raven — Scarce tran Single birds were seen flying town 7 and 13 May.

**Water Pipit* — Common summe dent. First seen 7 June near Nipissak and almost daily wards, inland and on the lar lands including Marble Islar July. An adult carrying foo recorded 17 July 2 km w of Immatures were seen 20 July s town dump.

(*?)*Savannah Sparrow* — Co summer resident. First record a single bird on Thomson Isla June. Subsequently seen in low bers on the larger islands and mainland often s of the town In mid-July an adult repea chipped near me as if I was nest.

**White-crowned Sparrow* — U mon resident. First seen in t June. An adult sang in tov

several days in late June. Immatures
were seen at the town dump 7
August.

ris Sparrow — Scarce transient. One
dult was seen feeding on Falstaff
sland 21 June.

pland Longspur — Common sum-
ner resident. First seen 4 June and
aily thereafter, both inland and on
arger islands. In mid-June males
vere seen in territorial battles, heard
inging, and females were seen car-
ying nesting materials. On 17 July
nmature birds were seen 4 km w of
own.

w Bunting — Common resident.
his early spring arrival was seen 6
ay and in flocks of 50 to 100
rough the month. During the rest
summer they were seen in smaller
ımbers throughout the area and on
any islands. In June females were
en carrying nesting materials,
ales were heard singing, and a nest
ıs found in town 28 June. Imma-
res were seen 31 July on Marble
and.

non Redpoll — Scarce resident(?).
group of four birds was seen on
norama Island 24 May. A single
d was w of town 6 June and two
re on Thomson Island 11 August.

ssion

study recorded 47 species of
with evidence of breeding for 17
s. There was weak evidence of
ing found for Tundra Swans and
nah Sparrows. Past studies in the
Inlet area by Maher (1968) and
and Lein (1968), showed that, in
on to the 47 species seen in the
and summer of 1988, there are
s for the following: Yellow-billed
Green-winged Teal, Lesser Scaup,
on Goldeneye, Gyrfalcon, Wil-
tarmigan, Black-bellied Plover,

Lapland Longspur, Herschel Island
M.A. Gollop

Red Knot, Pomarine Jaeger, Long-tailed Jaeger, Northern Wheatear, and Hoary Redpoll.[2] [3] The total list is 59 bird species for the area. This list should grow as more studies are done in the area.

Acknowledgements

Funding for the summer was provided by a grant from the Northern Studies Training Program and the Department of Renewable Resources, Government of the Northwest Territories, both of which I gratefully acknowledge. Thanks are also extended to W.J. Maher for his assistance in preparing this report.

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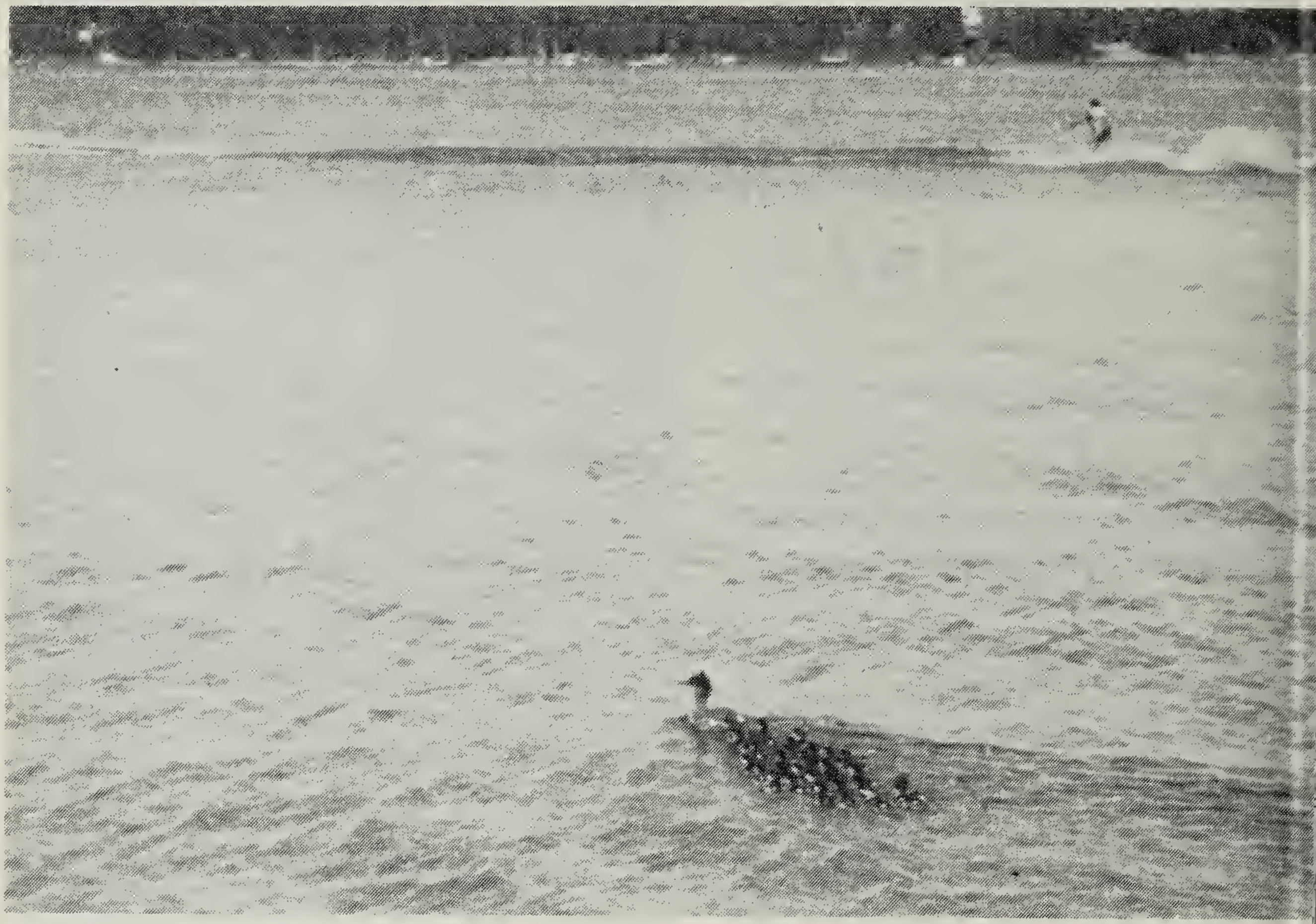
MERGANSERS AND RESORTS



Common Merganser *Marion Alle*

Taken at Emma Lake 1 July 1988, this photograph makes two statements, one about mergansers, the other about today's resort environment.

The Common Merganser may lay up to 17 eggs, although the usual clutch is 9 to 12. Examination, however, of a large color print under strong light and magnifying glass showed 20 ducklings, four larger than the others, indicating there had been two broods. Possible explanations were coalesced broods, partial brood adoption or surrogate parent, all occasional behaviourisms by this species. Because Emma is at the southerly limit of the breeding range, merganser broods have been uncommon on the lake, and are even rarer today. The photo-record is noteworthy.

Since the mid-1950s, resort acti
this lake has increased markedly;
usage, reed bed clearing and sho
cottage development now mean
water-associated birds. For those
that do settle in during spring wh
lake is still quiet, the reproducti
quence is often disturbed, for st
with the first warm weekends, h
activity becomes considerabl
photo tells it all.

Alvena Schnell brought
photograph to my attention;
Dzubin made available referen
brood formation. — Jim A. Wedg
610 Leslie Avenue, Saskatoon,
atchewan.S7H 2Z2

ERLIN NESTING IN SOUTHERN ANITOBA

N BANCROFT, 306 Tuxedo Boulevard, Winnipeg, Manitoba. R3P 0R3

ıe Merlin (formerly known as the on Hawk) is one of our smaller ɔns and, in flight, can be distinhed from the American Kestrel rrow Hawk) by the broad contrastbands on its tail. There are four pecies in Canada, and this falcon in e form, can be found "at some ɔn of the year over practically all orth American continent, except in reeless Arctic region."[1] [5] It occurs ell in Europe, North Africa, and the lle East.[1] In the British Isles it is n as "the ladies' falcon."[2]

e first successful nesting of Merlin innipeg was in 1988. This paper an account of Merlins nesting in ıipeg and lists nest records for ern Manitoba since 1955.

ipeg Records

lolf Koes reported two nestings of ns in old crow nests. in northeast ban Winnipeg, not far from the iver. One nest was found in 1987 ıe other in 1988 in the same neighod. These nests were both in tall e in fairly open areas. The nesting ɔt confirmed successful, however, h instances the male and female een wintering together.

id Hatch saw a male Merlin in spring 1988 in the southwest of Winnipeg, near a clump of in which there were two old ests.[7] He also reported in Novem88 that a St. Vital resident had a lerlin "spending the winter nights ue spruce in his yard."[8]

writer first observed Merlins on y when a pair flew above the treetops close to Assiniboine Park and approximately 0.5 km from the river. Their loud screaming calls of "kik-kik-kik" were like those given when a human comes near the nest.[4]

Many calls were heard in this area on 13 July. One of two Merlins perched in a spruce 10.5 m from the ground was a fledged young. The nest was located on 15 July at 1005 h. The smaller adult (the male) uttering loud calls, flew swiftly to a high branch of a tree and perched momentarily, with a mouse dangling from its beak. It then flew to the nest, 10.5 m up in a spruce in a neighboring yard. During the brooding period hunting is done by the male along. The male feeds his mate, but "the young are fed by the female who leaves her station and takes the prey from the male, not at the nest, but generally at or near one of the neighborhood perching places.[1] [10] [1]

This nest appeared to be an old American Crow nest, as is often the case.[3] [5] Built close to the trunk of the tree, it was constructed of fine twigs, pieces of fine bark, and rootlets.

With this particular nesting, the size of the clutch could not be determined; only two fledged young were observed.

In the nesting area on 18 July an adult and one young were seen perched on top of a 2.4-m high chain-link fence. For several minutes they remained motionless and silent, unlike the previous day when they were heard calling for 15 minutes, even when they were approached within 4.5 m. Both birds then took off and began hunting; darting swiftly in pursuit of a Cliff Swallow and then an American Robin, but to no avail. (On 12 July, however, Robert Nero had found the remains of a Cliff Swallow on a lawn near the nest site.) It appeared as though the adult was giving training lessons to the young because both Merlins came down on the park lawn twice; no noticeable prey was captured. The birds finally flew back in the direction of the nest site. At no time during all observations did a young bird beg for food, as is the case with many passerine fledglings.

On 20 July at 1000 h loud calls were heard, but no Merlins could be seen. However, at 1115 h an adult flew swiftly over the open area of the park in the direction of the nest site. On 22 July at 0930 h a two-man team television crew from station CKND met Robert Nero and the writer near the nest site. The Merlins had not been seen for 2 days but, at 1025 h loud calls were heard and the birds returned to the nest area. Two perched atop tall trees and remained there for at least 15 minutes silent and motionless. The production of the T.V. crew was broadcast twice the same day on prime time T.V. news.

The next morning and evening one Merlin was heard and seen flying about. On 24 July from 1055 to 1116 h the male, with its usual noisy calls, flew to the top of a tall tree, not far from the nest site, with a House Sparrow dangling from its beak. In 5 minutes all the feathers were plucked; they floated down to the street. Some fine down was eaten when the flesh was plucked. The bird gorged itself on the innards. In 16 minutes the entire sparrow was demolished, except the legs and feet. Fox states "apparently the plucking is done immediately at the site of the kill or at the nearest convenient perch."[4] During this time the female called and flew to another tree about 23 m. distant.

Merlins eat mainly small birds,
as House Sparrows,as well as ro
and insects; they have also been
pursuing and attacking birds as la
Common Flickers and magpies.[13] [1

Although Merlins frequently sta
winter, depending on density of
population, no further sightings
Merlins at this site were made aft
August.[11] [13]

During the past few years ther
been a considerable increase in
in Winnipeg. Merlins frequentl
abandoned crow nests so it is po
that this could lead to their incre
Winnipeg in the years ahead, as w
case in Saskatoon.[9] [12]

Other Manitoba Records

On 26 July 1988 the write
directed by loud calls to a Merli
site at Whytewold, on Lake Win
64 km n of Winnipeg. This nes
10.5 m from the ground in a spr
what appeared to be an old crow
Cottagers were upset because the
lins were taking many small song
as well as young Purple Martins.
appeared to be only two fledge
lins. This was the writer's first rec
a Merlin at Whytewold despite
years of birding in that area.

In other areas of southern Ma
Merlins have nested successful
many years (see Table 1). All of th
recorded in Prairie Nest Re
Scheme were high in spruce tre
in park-like areas. Nesting atten
the Merlin have been obser
Pinawa, Whitemouth and Vi
Beach over the past few years (R.
pers. comm.)

Ken de Smet indicates that "p
nary studies on the status of Mer
southern Manitoba commen
1988. Playback of taped calls wa
to locate nesting pairs, prima

e 1. NESTING RECORDS OF MERLINS IN SOUTHERN MANITOBA FROM
RIE NEST RECORDS CARD SCHEME.

ion	*Habitat*	*Date*	*Observer*
m ese of Aweme	spruce woods	5 May 1955	Stuart Criddle
m e of Stonewall	cemetery	5 July 1983	Ken Gardner
on (# instances)	city	1962 - 1977	Mamie McCowan
on	fair grounds	1978-1982	Mamie McCowan
on	Brandon Hills cemetery	1978-1982	Mamie McCowan
lon	Dept. of Agric. grounds	9 July 1982	Cal Cuthbert

led cemeteries. Productivity was r than expected and several addled were collected. Populations ap- to be expanding in the Aspen and, with nesting pairs in Brandon, ge, Winnipeg, Dauphin and a ber of smaller communities" (K. de pers. comm.).

owledgements

reciation is expressed to Robert for his constructive criticism of an r draft of this paper; to Herbert nd who provided access to the rvation cards of Prairie Nest ds Scheme and other papers; to De Smet and to Rudolf Koes for rtant unpublished information nest sites.

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MORE ON THE ROOSTING HABITS O AN URBAN MERLIN

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The illustrated note which I prepared on this subject omitted an observation at variance with the hawk's usual behaviour.[1] On 5 January 1986, at 4:03 p.m. a Merlin arrived from the east in hot pursuit of a waxwing which dodged among the spruce of a park (mentioned in the earlier note) and evidently escaped capture, since the hawk was found perched without prey on a spruce branch about 2 m above the ground. It flushed from this well-hidden perch to settle in a nearby deciduous tree, remaining there several minutes until the author left the area. Might it have remained in this spruce to roost, 2 hours before sunset instead of its normally much later entry into the roost?

On 16 September 1986 a Merlin (the same bird?) was first seen by another observer on the roof which had been a routine pre-roosting perch the preceding winter. This particular roosting area was not used between mid-May and mid-September 1986. Between 16 September 1986 and 8 January 1987 the hawk was observed there by two observers on 30 evenings and one morning. During this period it showed some deviations from its previously reported habits. On 19 October at 10 minutes after sunset it made an unsuccessful stoop from a pine 50 m from its usual roost at a Red Squirrel on the ground. It then flew to the TV aerial and 18 minutes later dropped behind the roof and out of view.

During the winter of 1986-1987 the TV aerial was its favorite waiting perch rather than the pre-roosting perches used in the preceding winter. Only on three occasions was it seen to enter the "double spruce" which had bee regular roosting spot during the vious winter but it may have reaching the spruce from behin building where it was not visible my observation post.

During an attempted morning o vation on 21 December the hawk not seen during the period 29 minutes before sunrise, but o morning of 24 December it was al on the antenna at 18 minutes b sunrise, preening and once stretch wing. At 13 minutes before sunr flew toward the river bank.

A stuffed (or model) small ro dragged across an open space is attacked by an owl perched i vicinity. On 18 December I perfo a similar experiment using a s Red-backed Vole, while the watched from the end of a roof 10 m distant. The bait moved fo in a most life-like way up and over the uneven snow for ab minutes, until the line be detached. The hawk did not reac the maneuver was not repeated casionally one or more magpie ched close to the hawk, i pre-roosting phase. They never overt gestures of attack toward the lin but if they perched too clo would fly to another of its tradi pre-roosting perches.

This series of observations sh the hawk's arrival in the roosting a 3 minutes after sunset on an ov evening but 11, 13 and 19 minute sunset on three sunny evenings. was thus some evidence that it a its pre-roosting perch somewhat ear- r on overcast than on sunny evenings. ne of seven drops to the roost in ercast weather ranged from 9 to 20 nutes after sunset, with an average of minutes, while on eight sunny even- s the corresponding times ranged m 10 to 33 minutes with an average 25 minutes, i.e. somewhat earlier on ercast than on sunny evenings. These a are contrary to the suggestion in earlier report that the brightness of evening sky has a moderate delay- effect on the time (relative to sunset) ntry into the roost.[1]

seasonal effect on arrival time is gested by the observation that the lin arrived in the roosting area on September 14 minutes *before* sunset a dull evening, i.e., much earlier the early October to early January s reported above.

aiting periods between arrival in area and entry into the roost in ober were 15 and 10 minutes on two overcast days, and 8 and 9 minutes on two sunny evenings, i.e. they were longer on overcast than on sunny evenings. The earlier note stated that during the pre-roost wait the hawk spent only a fraction of this time preening.[1] This second series of observations during this phase confirm that during the last part of the waiting period the Merlin was almost always immobile. However, tail movements, rotations of the head 45⁰o from, and back to resting position, stretching one wing, preening, reaching over the preen gland area with the beak and on mild evenings, fluffing out of the breast plumage, were not infrequent during the earlier part of the waiting periods. Once it defecated immediately before dropping off the perch and, white smears below its traditional perches but hardly any below the roosting tree, showed that defecation was a fairly frequent activity during the pre-roosting period.

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ture female Richardson's Merlin *J. Poulson*

FIRST FULLY DOCUMENTED NESTIN OF EASTERN SCREECH-OWL IN SASKATCHEWAN

C. STUART HOUSTON, 863 University Drive, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. S7N

Christopher I.G. Adam, has demonstrated that the Eastern Screech-Owl is a regular resident along the Souris River in southeastern Saskatchewan, and has been present at least since the 1920s.[1] Using tapes of Screech-Owl calls, Adam and Fitzgerald saw or heard screech-owls at 17 of 53 stops between Estevan and the United States boundary in 1986. Most of the responding owls were near villages, haystacks or feedlots.[1]

Although territorial pairs have also been found in other valleys, including the Qu'Appelle Valley near Katepwa, Wascana Creek near Regina, and Moose Jaw Creek within the Moose Jaw city limits, sometimes near suitable hollow trees, there is only one record of definite breeding success anywhere in Saskatchewan, an undated record of a barely-fledged young "extracted from a chimney" near Moose Jaw by Bob Kreba in 1979.[2] There have been successful nestings documented only 8 and 14 miles east of the Saskatchewan boundary, at Lyleton and Reston, in southwestern Manitoba.[1]

In May, 1987, Doug Cole located an Eastern Screech-Owl nest in the park beside the river in Moose Jaw. When Dale Hjertaas visited the nest he obtained only an imperfect view of the adult flitting away. He felt identification was 98% certain -- but on a second visit the nest had been deserted and the projected banding visit for 6 June was cancelled.

When Bob Finley, Conservation
ficer with the Saskatchewan De
ment of Parks, Culture and Recreat
was transferred from North Battlef
where he regularly found Great Ho
Owl nests for me, to Estevan, he a
me what owls I would travel that f
band. The answer was easy: Eas
Screech-Owls. I sent Bob the plan
screech-owl boxes in the fall of 1
By February he put up 12 boxes a
the Souris River in areas where
Adam had found singing males pre
in previous years. Bill Connely o
tevan helped Bob build and erect s
of the boxes, while Garth MacFarl
south of Glen Ewen, assisted
another two.

All boxes were nailed to Mani
Maples (*Acer negundo*), 8 to 12
above the ground, in the Souris
Valley. The boxes were placed in t
groupings. Group 1: at about two-
intervals between Estevan and R
Percee. Group 2: three boxes ea
Roche Percee. Group 3: five box
one-mile intervals north of the
where the Souris River enters
United States, south of Glen Ewen

Bob phoned me at the end of M
report that eight of the boxes had sh
signs of activity, with four definite
ing attempts by screech-owls. I had
once banded an Eastern Screech-
one caught in the garden of Cons
Hatch on Fifth Avenue in Yorkton o
November 1945. Prospects lo
good to add to my list of nestling ra
banded. As it happened 1988 prov
the most nestling raptor banding d

ever — 16 species. Could I come vn Friday morning, Bob enquired?

larc Bechard had just flown in from se, Idaho, to help us trap adult oreys on their nests at Loon Lake that ekend. I hastily arranged to take lay off. After work on Thursday, c and I drove down to Holkham n at Dilke. We got up early on Friday ning, 3 June. Joined by our bed-and-ıkfast hostess, Margaret Belcher, we ved on Bob Finley's doorstep by 8 and began the rounds in his truck.

ght of Bob's 12 nest boxes were ıpied, but not all by screech-owls. mily of Gray Squirrels was being d in one Group 1 box, while there two adult Gray Squirrels in a ıp 2 box. European Starlings were ng several young in a Group 3 box, ough red-phase screech-owl ers were also in the box.

One Group 1 box had the apparent beginnings of a screech-owl nest, deserted early. Another box with a red phase adult screech-owl was predated, possibly by a Raccoon, though this is by no means certain. Two owl pellets were still present in the box.

Three screech-owl nests were successful. We captured and banded a grey-phase adult in the box closest to Estevan, and also banded her four downy young. The adult screech-owl looked at us sleepily when we moved her into the bright sunlight for a photograph. A gorgeous pattern of barring on her soft feathers was unlike any other species of owl (Figure 1). The nest nearest Roche Percee also had a grey-phase adult and four young banded (Figure 2). The third successful nest, about 14 miles east of the Northgate customs post, had four young, three

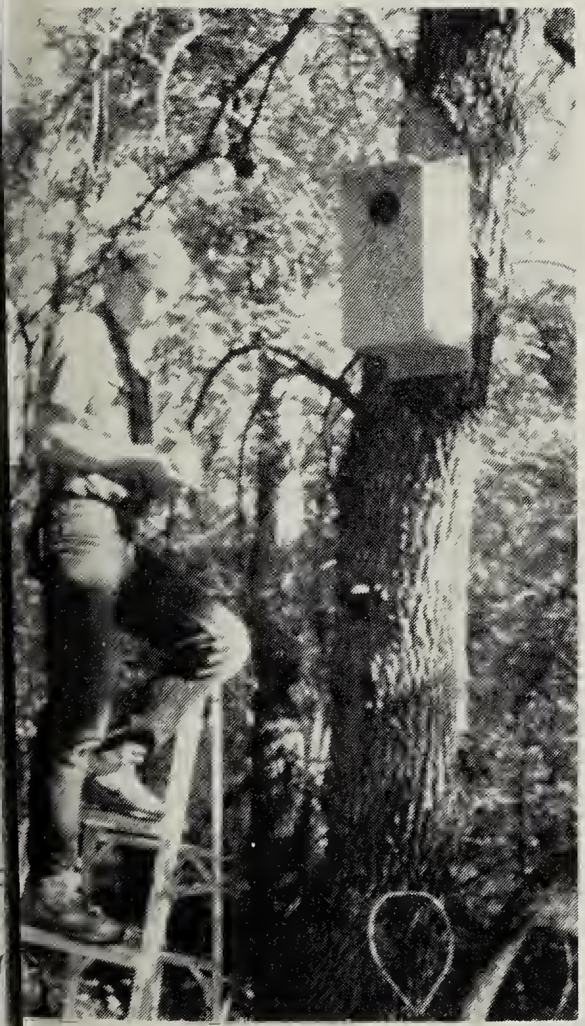

Fig 1. *Bob Finley opening Scr h-Owl box, Souris river near Este n, 3 June 1988* C.S. Houston

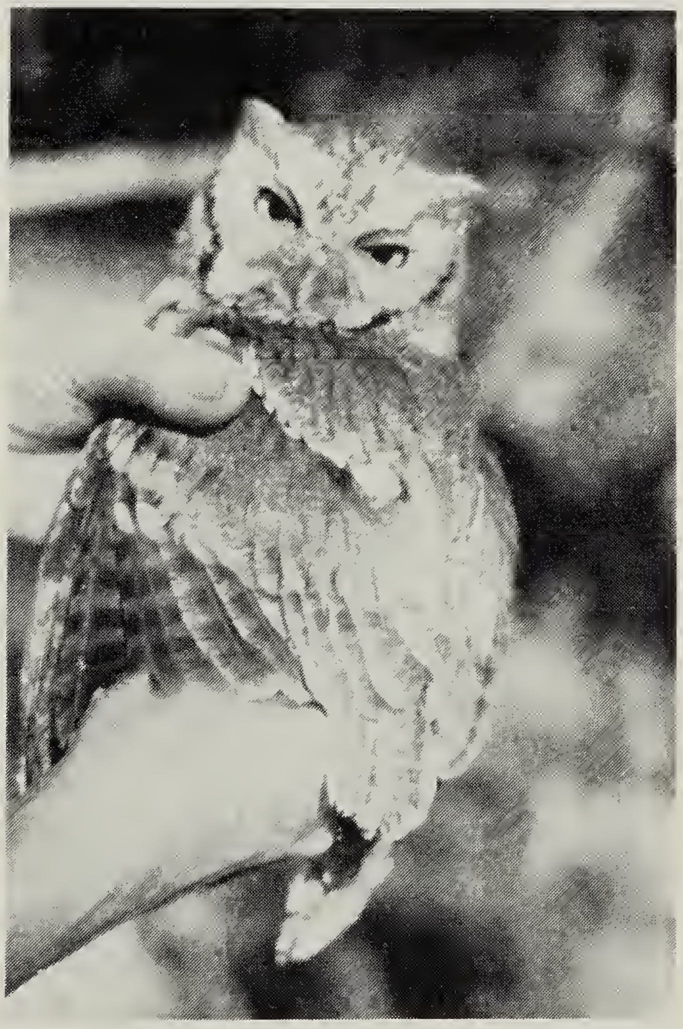

Figure 2. *Adult grey-phase Eastern Screech-Owl, near Estevan, 3 June 1988* C.S. Houston

Downy nestling grey-phase Eastern Screech-Owls, near Estevan, *3 June 198*
C.S. Ho

grey-phase and the only definite red-phase bird of the twelve.

Each of the successful nests was within a half mile of a cattle feedlot, corroborating Chris Adam's observations on this point. No doubt mice are more available in such locations. Although the sample is small, further nest box erection should be targeted for valley trees near feedlots.

Bernice Finley's zucchini loaf provided a mouth-watering snack as we paused briefly to listen to a singing Rose-breasted Grosbeak and appreciate the magnificent view of the Souris River valley. We left Estevan about 2 p.m., dropped Margaret Belcher off at Bethune, picked up our Osprey crew in Saskatoon, and carried on to Loon lake that evening. The Regina-Estevan trip via Dilke was over 460 km each way, we travelled close to 200 km in over 5 hours in the Souris Valley area, and we had another 325 km to cover to reach Loon Lake on Friday evening. Over 1400 kilometers of travel, but worth it. Truly, June 3 was a day never forget. We had banded 12 ling and 2 adult Eastern Screech- and recorded photographically th fully documented nestings o species in Saskatchewan.

Acknowledgements
I owe a debt of gratitude to Bo Bernice Finley, Bill Connely and MacFarlane, and to Chris Adam' veys which pinpointed the sites fo cessful nest box placement.

NOTE: In 1989 only one pai successful with three nestlings b south of Glen Ewen on 11 June.

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HAWK-OWL SPRUCE GROUSE NCOUNTER IN THE NORTHWEST ERRITORIES

L. KILIAAN, Canadian Wildlife Service, 4999 - 98 Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta.
2X3

n 6 January 1982 I was recording w measurement around Halliday :, NWT (61° 22′N, 108° 55′W). The ther was bright and sunny with the perature between -25° and -30° C. site was characterized by rolling pgraphy with glacial till over ambrian Shield bedrock. The trees 75 to 80-year-old stands of Black ce (*Picea mariana*) dominant over Pine (*Pinus contorta*) and birch *ula* sp.).

n top of a ridge at 1200 h, I en- ntered a trail in the soft snow ap- ntly made by a bird flapping its s but unable to take off. I followed rail, occasionally observing body ers and drops of blood. After about n the trail ended where a dead ce Grouse lay in the snow. The se was warm, limp and still intact some blood on its back, neck and st.

ove it, in the top of a Black Spruce, Northern Hawk-Owl excitedly ng. Not wanting to stress it I led not to examine the grouse for of death.

k-tracking revealed where the owl ounced on the walking grouse. In nsuing struggle, it appeared that wl rode the flapping grouse until ll was made. The grouse appeared ve been pushed down in the soft by the weight of its attacker and bly was unable to regain solid g.

Audubon quotes Richardson in the *Fauna Boreali Americana*: "The Hawk Owl is a common species throughout the fur countries from Hudson's Bay to the Pacific. In summer it feeds principally on mice and insects but in the snow-clad regions in the winter, it preys mostly on Ptarmigan."[1] Bent quoted Fischer that in summer, hawk owls feed mainly on small mammals and subsist on Ptarmigan in winter.[2]

The diurnal hunting behaviour of the hawk owl was noted by Mikkola and Huhtala et al.[5] [3] Mikkola states that when populations of voles are normal, most of the owls winter in the north, but

Hawk Owl *Stan Shadick*

when voles peak in the south, hawk owl invasions may occur into the areas of abundance.[5] Hawk owls have been known to penetrate central Europe at such times.

Mikkola published an analysis of Northern Hawk-Owl diet in Norway, Finland and Murmansk province in Russia.[5] In winter, when vole populations were low and in areas of thick snow cover limiting access to small mammals, voles comprised 41% of the diet. Birds, especially Willow Ptarmigan, were 32% of the diet. At nest sites in spring and summer mammals made up 96% and birds 1%, respectively.

Kertell in his Alaskan hawk-owl study of behaviour and breeding biology documented that juvenile Snowshoe (Varying) Hare and Red Squirrels comprised 20% of the biomass and Cricetidae 74% (includes most of the mice and voles) made up 74%.[4]

Mean body weights are: Willow Ptarmigan 550 g, juvenile hares 325 g, Red Squirrel 160 g and Cricetidae 23 - 34 g. With a Hawk-Owl mean body weight of 295 g, this observation indicates that hawk-owls can take relatively large non-dangerous prey almost double their weight.[5]

A predator, possibly raising young and trying to survive harsh weather, must utilize available prey. That is exactly what the Halliday Lake hawk-owl was doing. The 32-cm snow pack (decreasing its access to small mammals), cold temperatures and general scarcity of prey animals above the snow were all the incentives the little diurnal hunter needed to pounce when it saw the large Spruce Grouse walking through the snow.

In spring and early summer the hawk-owl switches to what is then available, easy to catch and to carry to its nest, such as voles, squirrels, juvenile h
and small birds.

The winter sighting at Halliday L
might not be unusual, since a check
Christmas Bird Counts in Ameri
Birds (National Audubon Soci
showed sporadic hawk-owl sighting
similar latitudes to Halliday L
Anchorage, Alaska (61°0
149°51'W), in 1985, one; Matanu
Valley, Alaska (61°36'N 149°15'W)
1986 and 1987, one each year;
Marsh Lake, Yukon Territory (60°3
134°30'W), in 1985, one.

Acknowledgements

This observation was made durir
caribou winter range study, fundec
the Canadian Wildlife Service and
Department of Indian and Northern
fairs, Canada. D.C. Thomas, G. Holr
and U. Banasch edited this paper.

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[6] NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY 1
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40(4). Christmas bird counts.

IFF SWALLOWS INVADE RMHOUSE

/ BELANGER, 412 McGillivray
ve, Weyburn, Saskatchewan. S4H
1

nusual nesting behavior of the
ous species of North American birds
ot a rare phenomenon. In the
burn area over the past few years,
e species have engaged in out-of-
usual nesting activities.[1] Examples
his behavior are cases reported in
7 and 1988 of Mallards nesting in
pie nests in the Weyburn and Col-
areas.

mid-July 1988 the writer, with fel-
observer Nick Postey, witnessed a
Swallow colony which was located
er the soffit of an occupied
house. The colony numbered 72
s. Cliff Swallows are known to con-
ct nests against vertical surfaces
as under the eaves of houses, chur-
, banks, stores or barns.[2] In this area
are more likely to locate under
ges or in culverts. While the colony
n this instance is not incredible, we
elled at the circumstances sur-
ding the colonization. The owners
e farmhouse, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer
er of Colgate, Saskatchewan, left on
tion and returned 10 days later to discover the colony completely established.

On our initial visit and subsequent later visits, there was evidence of successful mating and incubation activity. The Olivers were very tolerant and did nothing to disturb the birds.

---

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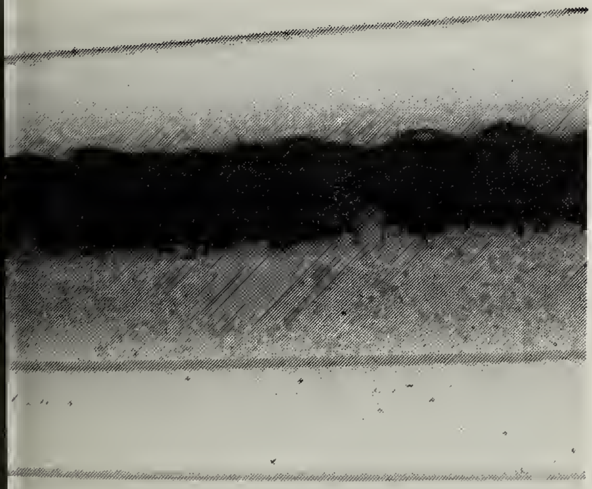

WHITE-EYED VIREO IN REGINA — FIRST FOR SASKATCHEWAN

FRANK H. BRAZIER, 2657 Cameron Street, Regina, Saskatchewan. S4T 2W5

Shortly before noon on 19 May 1988 a small bird flew into the rowan tree growing on the south side of the lawn at 2657 Cameron Street in Regina. It was about 28 m away, on an outside branch half way up, in clear view. The prominent white eye, two conspicuous white wing bars, white edging to the secondaries and primaries and yellow side identified the bird as a White-eyed Vireo which I had seen some years before in Louisiana.

I managed a brief look with binoculars, enough to note the field marks. The bird was in profile so that the "spectacles" could not be seen, but I could see the eye-ring and a very short projection that was the beginning of the forehead bar. The white iris and vireo bill were clearly seen. The bird flew off shortly, so that I could not make a prolonged study.

The White-eyed Vireo is a rare bird in Canada. Godfrey states that it nests rarely and locally in southern Ontario. He lists photo records for Nova Scotia and Quebec and a sight record for Winnipeg on 3 and 4 July 1981.[6] Bennett reports the first sighting for the Rimouski, Quebec area on 22 June 1987, and that they "... were easy to find" at Point Pelee, Ontario on 14 May 198 Cleveland et al do not mention it southeastern Manitoba where la numbers of species seen are consist ly recorded.[5] Berkey reports banded on 20 May 1982 for the seve South Dakota sighting and a sightin Sioux Falls on 8 May 1987 is note "... a rare record for South Dakota North Dakota appears to have records.

This sighting constitutes an addi to the hypothetical list of Saskatche birds.

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[2] BENNETT, G. 1988. *Birdfindin Canada* 8(4):21.

[3] BERKEY, G.B. 1982. Northern C Plains. *Am. Birds* 36(5):867.

[4] BERKEY, G.B. 1987. Northern C Plains. *Am. Birds* 41(3):454.

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ATUS OF WOODLAND CARIBOU ND MOOSE POPULATIONS NEAR EY LAKE IN NORTHERN SKATCHEWAN

E A. BREWSTER, Saskatchewan Parks, Recreation and Culture, Wildlife
ch, 3211 Albert Street, Regina, Saskatchewan. S4S 5W6

katchewan Parks, Recreation and
ure (SPRC) recently initiated an in-
ory program to determine the status
oodland Caribou and Moose in
t habitat, north of the Churchill
system. Traditionally, these far
ern habitats were thought to sup-
ower caribou and Moose densities
other parts of the province but
out inventory data it has been dif-
to document current levels or
term population trends.[1,2]

ring the 1987-88 winter an aerial
y technique was used to obtain
ty, sex-age structure, distribution
abitat use information on caribou
Moose populations near Key Lake.
Key Lake area was considered rep-
tative of most forest habitat north
Churchill River and comparable
fe inventory data was available
a 1976 aerial reconnaisance com-
d by Beak Consultants Ltd (BCL).[10]

Area

2380 km² survey block is located
ximately 70 km southeast of Cree
Fig. 1). The topography of the area
lulating with an interspersion of
hills, rock ridges and lake-filled
ssions, draining in a northeast
ion through the Geikie and
ler Rivers. The predominant
vegetation is Jack Pine (*Pinus*
iana) with Black Spruce (*Picea*
na) and some Tamarack *(Larix*
a).[10] Jack Pine and Jack Pine-Black
stands vary in height up to 15 meters. Recently burned areas located south and west of Key Lake consist of regenerating Jack Pine less than 5 meters in height. Treed and semi-open muskeg, dominated by stunted Black Spruce and Tamarack, occur around most of the smaller lakes and drainages. The Jack Pine-Black Spruce forest understory consists predominantly of dwarf shrubs including Canada Blueberry (*Vaccinicum myrtilloides*), Bog Cranberry (*Vaccinium vitis-idaea*), Labrador Tea (*Ledum groenlandicum*) and various lichens (*Cladina* spp.). Various mosses (*Sphagnum* spp.), lichens and sedges (*Carex* spp.) comprise the treed muskeg understory.

Methods

The aerial survey was flown between 8 and 11 January 1988, along east-west transects 70 km in length and at 2 km intervals using a Bell 206 Jet Ranger helicopter (Fig. 2). The helicopter with pilot and navigator/data recorder and 2 observers maintained an altitude of 120 m and a ground speed equivalent to 120-140 km/h. Two flight periods totalling 4 h, were flown each day from 1000 to 1200 h and 1400 to 1600 h, weather permitting. Approximately 25 cm of snow cover with fresh snow 2 days prior to the survey, occasional slight overcast, -30 to -37 C temperatures and 5 to 20 km/h winds provided good to excellent visibility during all flight periods.

Caribou and Moose activity was distinguished by track and behavioral

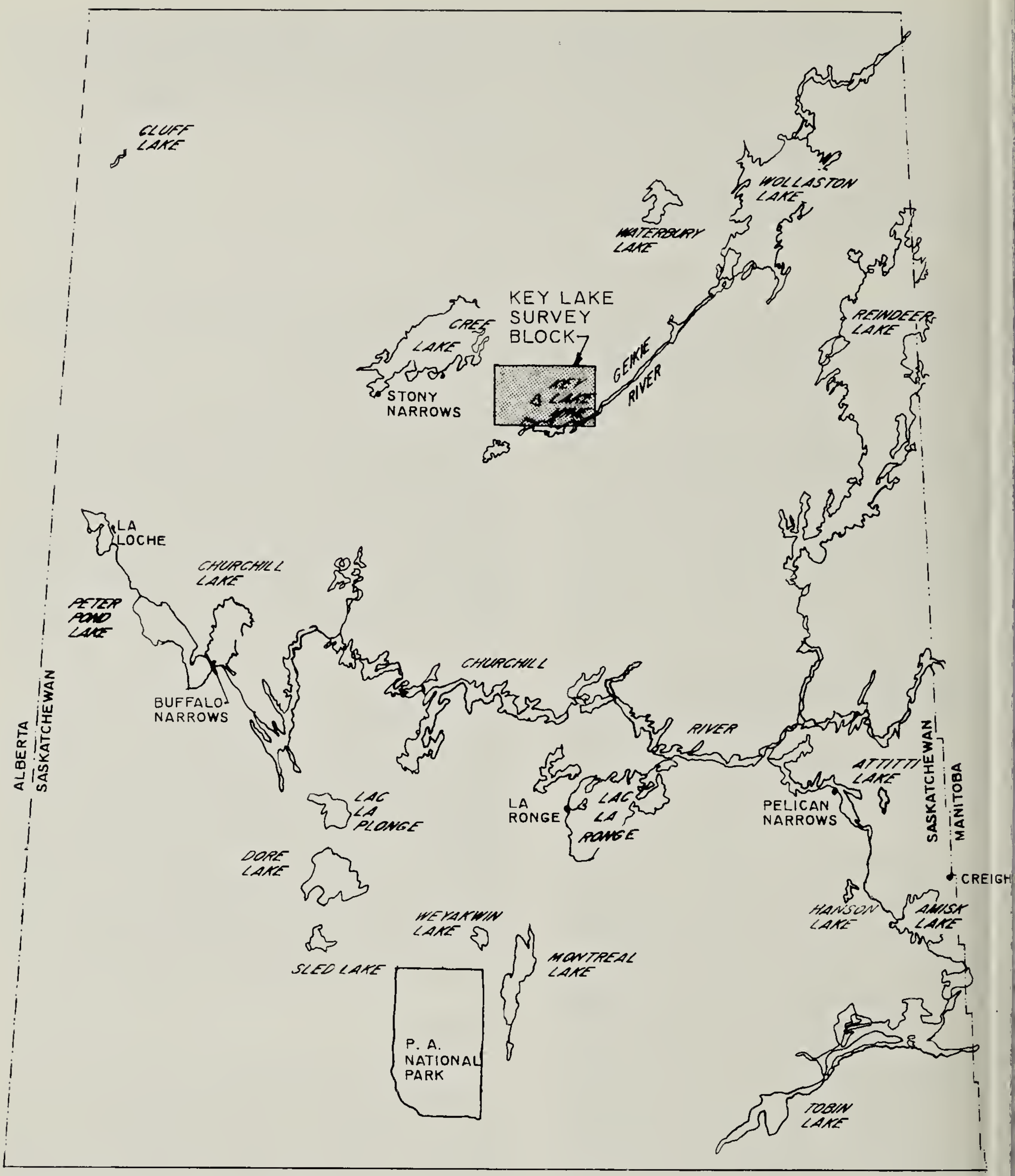
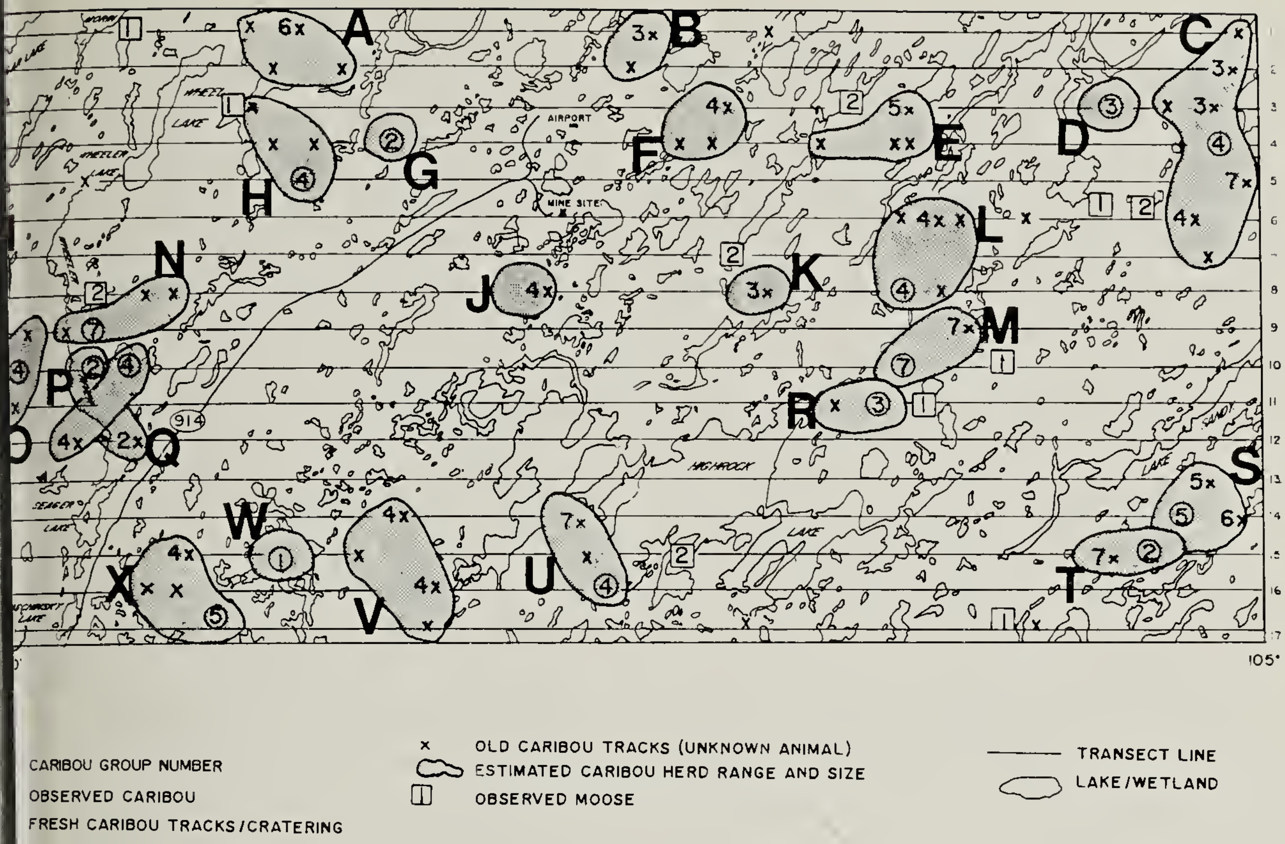


Figure 1. *Location within Saskatchewan of the Key Lake aerial survey bloock*

characteristics. Caribou sign was recognized by the presence of cratering and their tendency to walk in straight and parallel lines on lakes and lift their feet clear or swing them in wide sweeps in shallow snow.[5] Moose left larger tracks, usually in singles or pairs, in the snow. Moose also tended to walk in erratic patterns and drag their feet from step to step in shallow snow. The dominant forest cover type in which the animals were located or had displayed some activity was recorded.

Relatively fresh caribou tracks followed by the helicopter, somet up to 4 km off the transect line, animals were observed or it coul determined that the tracks were made within the last 24 to 48 h pe Old tracks were usually filled i drifting snow and could be follo only for short distances. Although t often overlapped with caribou sig other transect lines the tendenc caribou to travel from one lak another on the ice allowed observe



e 2. *Distribution of Woodland Caribou and Moose observed near Kay Lake*
rthern Saskatchewan during January 1988.

tor individual herd movements.
animals were generally observed
cratering sites or where numerous
s indicated that the animals were
ering at random with no specific
ional heading. In situations where
ou were not directly observed, the
nce and number of animals were
ated from cratering and fresh track
ty. Caribou were difficult to ob-
in dense forest cover and in
al instances, the observers felt con-
that caribou were present but
y were not visible from the
opter. Observed caribou were
d with the helicopter and sex and
termined from body size (calves),
size (mature bulls) and presence
ark colored vulva patch on the
e cows. To observe the vulva
it was necessary to herd the
u with the helicopter out into
areas or onto adjacent lakes for
short periods of time. Caribou tend to elevate their tails when alarmed and this trait facilitates the observation of the female external genitalia.[2]

Moose were counted only within 0.4 km of the transect line. Tracks were used to alert observers to animal activity but because tracks were not investigated with the helicopter while on transect, the population for the survey block was extrapolated from animal observations with a 30% observer miss-factor included in the estimate.

Results

Population Density

Seventeen groups of Woodland Caribou, including 18 bulls, 34 cows and 11 calves (total 63), were observed during the aerial survey (Table 1). Another 23 activity areas were identified either by an abundance of fresh tracks or cratering activity but no animals were observed. Tracks were routinely observed between cratering sites indicating that some of the activity was caused by the same group of animals. Based on actual caribou observations and the occurrence of activity areas where caribou were not observed but believed to be present, it was estimated that 25 groups of caribou totalling 102 animals resided in the survey block for a density of 0.04 caribou/km^2 or 1 caribou/23 km^2 (Table 2). These densities were 33% higher than reported by BCL on their Key Lake study area in December 1976.[10]The December 1976 survey represented the highest caribou estimate derived from 3 density surveys conducted by Beak during the 1976 to 1978 period.

Aerial surveys conducted by S
using a similar survey design prov
density estimates for caribou pop
tions south of the Churchill River. Ba
on early winter surveys flown in 1
87 on treed muskeg-coniferous hal
in the Weyakwin (La Ronge), Har
Lake (Creighton) and Attitti l
(Pelican Narrows) areas, thought to
resent some of the best caribou ha
in Saskatchewan, only the Hanson
area had higher densities than Key
(Fig. 1 and Table 2).[11] The Key
caribou densities were also simila
estimates of 0.04 animals/km^2 repo
from northern Ontario and northeas
Alberta, exceeded densities of
animals/km^2 from west central Alb
but were lower than 0.07 animals
estimate from Ontario's Lake Nip
area.[13 9 8 5]

Table 1.SEX-AGE COMPOSITION AND ESTIMATED GROUP SIZE OF WO LAND CARIBOU OBSERVED NEAR KEY LAKE IN NORTHERN SASKATCHEV DURING JANUARY,1988

Group Number	Number Observed Caribou Bulls	Cows	Calves	Total	Activity Areas	Estim Group
A	--	--	--	--	1	
B	--	--	--	--	1	
C	1	2	1	4	5	
D	1	1	1	3	1	
E	--	--	--	--	1	
F	--	--	--	--	1	
G	--	1	1	2	1	
H	1	3	--	4	1	
I	--	2	--	2	1	
J	--	--	--	--	1	
K	--	--	--	--	1	
L	2	1	1	4	2	
M	2	3	2	7	2	
N	3	3	1	7	1	
O	--	3	1	4	2	
P	--	2	--	2	2	
Q	--	3	1	4	2	
R	1	2	--	3	1	
S	2	2	1	5	3	
T	1	1	--	2	2	
U	2	2	--	4	2	
V	--	--	--	--	2	
W	--	1	--	1	1	
X	2	2	1	5	2	
Y	--	--	--	--	1	
Total	18(29%)	34 (54%)	11(17%)	63	40	1

hteen Moose (5 bulls/6 cows/5 cal-
unknown sex) in 13 groups were
rved during the transect portion of
urvey (Fig. 1). Based on observed
als and including a 30% observer
factor, the population on the sur-
lock was estimated at 60 animals
density of 0.03 Moose/km^2 or 1
e/40 km^2. BCL reported a density
1 Moose/km^2 during their Decem-
976 survey, suggesting that the Key
Moose population has tripled in
st 12 years.[10] Barber et al reported
ly higher winter densities of 0.04
11 Moose/km^2 in the Churchill
area, east of La Ronge.[1] Densities
forest areas, south of the Chur-
River system, range from 0.04 to
Moose/km^2 and are considerably
r than densities at Key Lake.[12]

tion Structure

and age classification of caribou
vely identified indicated a popula-
tructure of 53 bulls/100 cows/32
(Table 2). The calf:cow ratio was
than that observed at Attiti Lake,
as similar to production indices
he Hanson Lake and Weyakwin
reas.[11] Calves comprised 17% of
served population, similar to or
e instances higher than calf crops
% to 20% in southeastern
ba and 12% in northeastern Al-
[5] Bergerud suggested that
u populations with more than
alves in late winter were increas-
ereas those with less than 10%
were in decline.[3]

The ratio of 53 bulls/100 cows observed at Key Lake was higher than bull:cow ratios reported from the Hanson Lake and Weyakwin Lake areas but similar to ratios observed on the Attiti Lake area. Slightly higher bull:cow ratios were reported in Alberta but Bergerud indicated that the sex ratio in most caribou populations, whether hunted or not, should exhibit a preponderance of cows.[9] [3]

Of 31 cows observed at Key Lake, 87% were antlered, similar to 92% and 76% antlered cows observed during early winter surveys in Alberta and Manitoba, respectively.[9] [6] Only 69% of 16 bulls segregated at Key Lake were antlered and approximately half of the antlers were small, similar in size to those exhibited by cows, suggesting that both mature and immature bulls were being observed. Fuller and Keith suggested that during the winter mature bulls do not associate with other sex-age groups but at Key Lake the presence of large antlered males observed with immature male, cow and calf groups indicated that some mature bulls do remain with the main herd during the early winter period.[9]

The average caribou herd size of 3.7 animals/group, ranging from 1 to 7 animals, was slightly larger than the mean herd size of 3.3 caribou/group observed by BCL, but maximum group size was smaller (Table 2).[10] Mean group size ranged from 4.3 to 6.8

2. ESTIMATED DENSITIES, GROUP SIZE AND HERD STRUCTURE FOR
LAND CARIBOU POPULATIONS IN NORTHERN SASKATCHEWAN

	Population Size	*Group Size*		*Population Structure/100 Cows*		
	Animals/km^2	*Mean*	*Range*	*Bulls*	*Calves*	*#Animals*
ke	0.03	6.8	4 - 13	60	10	27
Lake	0.05	5.6	3 - 13	33	33	45
e (BCL)	0.03	3.3	1 - 13	-	-	44
e (1988)	0.04	3.7	1 - 7	53	32	63
in Lake	0.02	4.3	1 - 8	39	27	57
ark	-	3.8 - 4.2	-	-	-	-

caribou/group on the Attiti, Hanson and Weyakwin Lake survey blocks with a maximum of 13 animals in one herd.[11] Slightly larger average group sizes of 3.8 to 4.2 caribou were observed during January 1978 surveys at Prince Albert National Park in central Saskatchewan.[4] Other investigators reported small but seasonally fluctuating group sizes with mean winter herd sizes of 5.4, 5.5 and 8.6 caribou/group.[9] [7] [5] Large winter herds of 65 caribou have been observed in Ontario but these herds were comprised of smaller subgroups.[5]

Smaller herd sizes observed at Key Lake may be partially due to the homogeneity of the habitat and shallow snow depths. Preferred habitat was readily available to individual herds and snow depths were considered below average for the Key Lake area at the time of the survey. In Manitoba, caribou aggregations were smaller and caribou travelled more extensively in winters with thin snow cover.[14]

Classification of 16 Moose observed during the survey indicated a herd composition of 83 bulls/100 cows/83 calves. Groups ranged from 1 to 3 Moose for a mean herd size of 1.5 animals. Both calf/cow and bull/cow ratios were considerably higher than ratios reported from southern forest areas but sample sizes were small and may not be representative of the true population structure.[12]

Geographic Distribution

Track, cratering and animal observations indicated that caribou were highly mobile, ranging 2 to 12 km in distance since fresh snow cover 2 days prior to the survey period. The movement was in a north-south or east-west direction following general topographic features such as Jack Pine ridges, drainages that connected lakes and treed muskegs. In December 1976, BCL found that caribou followed a broad zone dis tion from the southwest to nort part of the survey block with animals and activity observed o west side of the survey block. though the 1988 survey cover slightly smaller area, extending fa east and west but not as far north a 1976 survey, caribou appeared to a wider distribution. At least 12 c 25 groups of caribou estimated to r in the survey block were located o east side of the survey block. Ca located on the west side of the su block were in approximately the areas as observed during the 197 vey. Several caribou herds were lo within 4 km of the Key Lake min access road and caribou tracks observed crossing the main access at 6 locations (Fig. 2).

Although the Key Lake caribou probably mix or travel with each from time to time, particularly d the fall and early winter months, herds were located 2 to 10 km each other during the survey. herds on the east side of the s block (herd C, S and T; Fig. 2) app to join together and separat casionally based on track observa and it was difficult to designate th separate groups.

Moose were observed througho survey block, similar to observa made by BCL during the 1976 su Animals appeared to be distri uniformly throughout similar h types.

Habitat Use

During the survey, 44% of the ca observed were located in matur Pine stands adjacent to small lake plexes. The remaining animals found in treed muskeg (40%) an ture Jack Pine stands associated treed muskegs (16%). Moose ut treed muskeg and Jack Pine burns pproximately equal proportions.

ck and cratering activity suggested the caribou traveled from lake to occasionally cratering for slush or king water and moving into treed kegs and Jack Pine stands to forage od. Heavy caribou utilization of nd lichens that grow in the relative- en canopy and sparse understory acteristic of mature Jack Pine stands lichens and sedges in treed mus- was reported for Manitoba.[6 14] Most ou herds utilized all the major at types although the duration of stay in each habitat could not be mined.

ck and animal observations indi- that caribou tended to avoid erating Jack Pine burns located tly south of the mine site and in the west part of the survey block. Low ation of recent burns was docu- ed in Manitoba because lichens ot had time to become established subsequently could not meet ou food requirements.[6]

lusions

odland Caribou were more abun- than Moose in the Key Lake area. ou populations exceeded den- observed during previous aerial ys between 1976 and 1978 but the se was believed to be a function proved survey design. BCL, using d-winged aircraft, only included ls observed within 0.4 km of the ct.[10]The improved visibility from elicopter versus a fixed-winged ft, flying following a fresh snow- earching for caribou activity off nsect line and circling caribou to ve all of the animals resulted in a accurate aerial survey in 1988. ou populations, therefore, may ave changed significantly in the ecade.

It appears, however, that the Key Lake area supports higher densities than some southern forest areas, previously considered the best caribou range in Saskatchewan. Based on occasional sightings of caribou and the abundance of mature Jack Pine-treed muskeg habitat north of the Churchill River, the densities observed at Key Lake may be indicative of other habitat in this part of northern Saskatchewan.[15] These densities also suggest that Saskatchewan caribou populations may be relatively high in comparison with other provincial jursidications.

The sex ratio and fecundity were similar to those reported for other caribou populations. There appeared to be sufficient recruitment to sustain and possibly increase current population levels. Early winter caribou herd sizes at Key Lake were smaller in comparison to most other jurisdictions but shallow snow depths and preferred habitat in close proximity to all caribou may have helped maintain small independent herds.

Caribou movements during the survey period appeared to be influenced primarily by topography and habitat type. The abundance of small lakes connected by natural drainages and surrounded by mature Jack Pine stands permitted caribou to travel long distances in a relatively short period of time while remaining in close proximity to predator escape and thermal cover. Mature Jack Pine stands and treed muskeg were heavily utilized probably because lichens and sedges were readily available as a daily food source. Habitat preferences were similar to those exhibited by other caribou populations. Forest fires will probably continue to influence caribou habitat use and distribution because most fires in this part of northern Saskatchewan are started by lightning strikes.

Although the survey indicated an increase in the Moose population, densities remain very low in the far northern regions of Saskatchewan. The abundant Jack Pine-spruce-Tamarack habitat north of the Churchill River is generally rated of lower quality for Moose than more productive southern mixed-wood and hardwood forest stands.[12] [10]The regenerating Jack Pine burns and treed muskeg used by Moose, probably supports some growth of deciduous browse species that, in the absence of hardwood forest cover, may have provided the only food source. The sex ratio, based on small sample size, suggested good recruitment and that the Moose herd was capable of sustaining population growth.

Acknowledgements

The aerial survey was sponsored by the Key Lake Mining Corporation. The participation of P. Haughian, Q. Risom, V. Wasylenchuk (SPRC) and pilot B. Hofstede (Athabaska Airways) is greatly appreciated.

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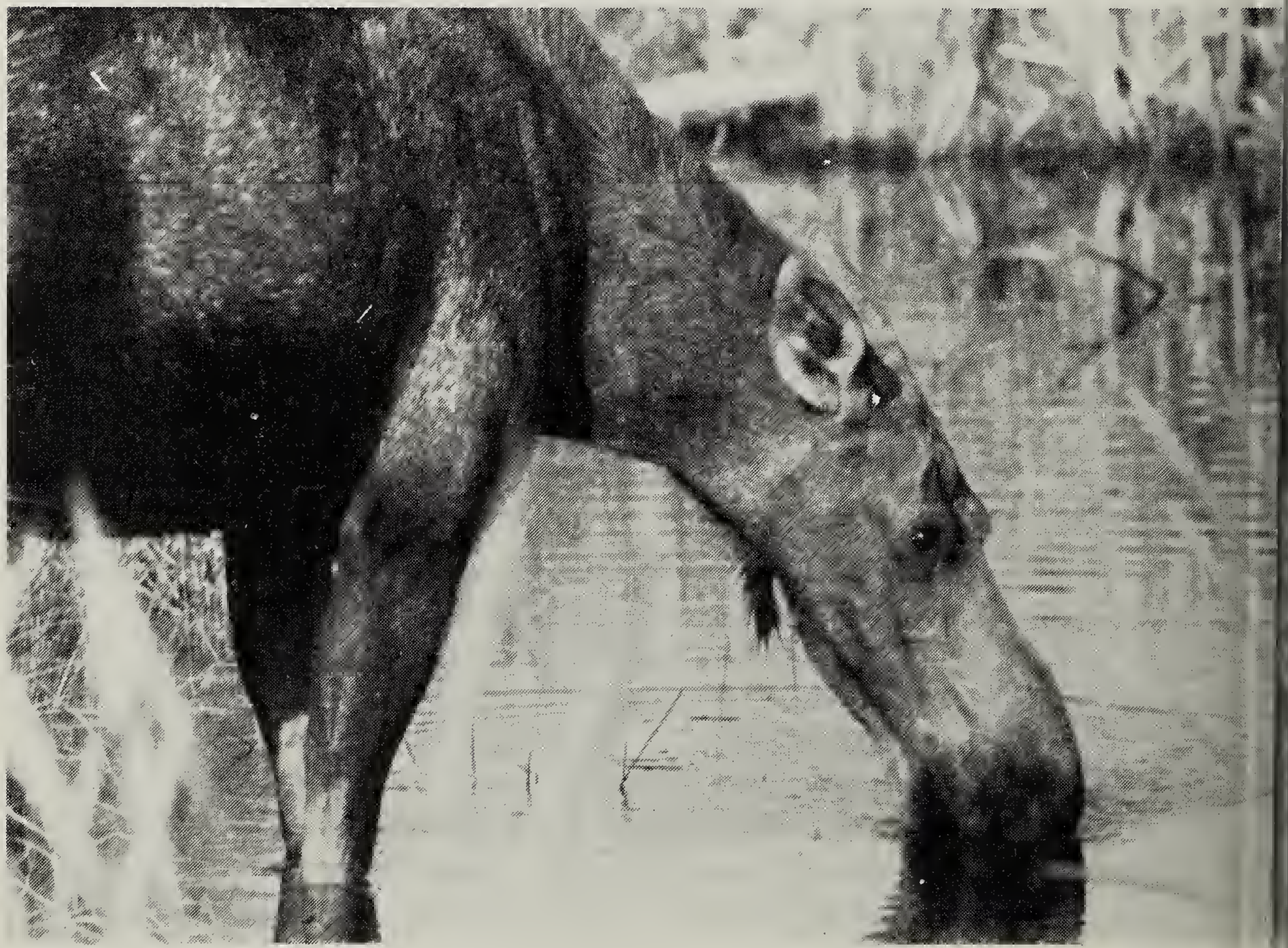

Moose

Juhach

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he burn near Waterbury Lake, in northern Saskatchewan *Chris Adam*

THE GOLDEN LAB AND THE COYOTE

A. SAAS, 230 Athabasca W., Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan. S0H 2B9

Spring was trying to arrive, forcing out the last days of Old Man Winter by warming up the hillsides and ravines. The sun seemed extremely warm and inviting today even though the odd snow bank was still trying to make a last desperate attempt to hang on for its life. Not being able to resist an invitation to the first call of spring, my dog Sam and I prepared for a brisk walk in the nearby valley.

I packed a thermos of coffee, a book to read in the warm sun, some dog biscuits and a litre of water for the dog. These we would enjoy at the picnic tables at the half way point of our walk.

The walk began after a 10 minute drive to get out of the city. It was great, tramping through mud and dry areas and a mixture of both. We stopped often on this first glorious walk of spring to make certain that we enjoyed everything around us.

The squawk of the early arriving Canada and Snow Geese let all around them know that they were messengers of spring bringing the sun and the warm winds. In tune with the geese was the quacking of the pintail and mallard ducks attempting to set up territory. The early chokecherry buds looked tasty on the trees as well as the old rose hips still left from last year. They occasionally whispered to Sam to come on over and leave his mark as other animals that passed by had done. No place could be better than the open air in early spring.

After an enjoyable walk of five medium hills and five ever so long, tall and steep hills we finally made it to the picnic area and fell exhausted ont
benches of the picnic tables.

As quick as a wink the first cu
coffee was drunk up and Sam ha
water. This was our reward for our
walk. The dog biscuits were qu
eaten by Sam and with the secon
of coffee came the signal that we c
now sit back and relax for a whil
course, before Sam could rela
usual sniffing of everything arou
had to be done. Then as the s
diminished he came over and se
down for a quiet nap in the sun.
book that I was reading took all
sures away from my mind and stil
slowly settled in.

In the quietness of the easy
blowing in the trees and the s
flowers trying to bud, we became
pletely enwrapped in our relaxati

I was abruptly brought arou
reality by a strange grunting sou
my dog. I hollered at him for so r
interrupting my solitude. He sto
but out of the corner of my eye I
see him crawling on his belly. I qu
continued to read and was almost
solution to the mystery when Sam
that same weird grunt sound aga
was a sickening sound so I had to
up to see what he was up to. No
had crawled about 50 yards from w
he was and all this distance on his
as the slide marks in the soft soil
cated. There, ahead of him, w
coyote doing the same type of cra
as what Sam did. I stopped and wa
in awe. There were both animals c
ing towards each other making st
grunting sounds. I got frighten
myself and Sam as he got up fro

and began walking over to the e. I was afraid for his life in case would fight so I whistled loudly. was a warning sound to Sam and opped. Meanwhile the coyote up very straight and watched. hen came running back to me and wn. The coyote then ran about ig steps straight ahead, did a com- somersault and ended up with its ointing every which way. Sam sat ying to figure out what was hap- g. When the coyote began to its bushy tail and walk towards us, cared. I immediately thought that rabies for its strange actions. In ightened condition I grabbed a off a dead caragana tree and ed on to the picnic table. I was ed to fight. It seemed to sense a from curiosity to protectiveness and it began to circle around instead of coming straight at us. It circled us for about 10 minutes and then headed towards the valley top. Once at the crest it stopped and lay down to watch us. Its coat meanwhile glistened in the warm sun and it blended in amongst the rocks at the top.

Slowly, we packed up and began our walk back. We were ever so watchful as we hiked the long trail. To this day, I do not know the meaning of all this activity by that coyote. Was it a new type of spring dance by the animals? Was it a spring ritual or was it the coyote-dog way to announce spring? Whatever it was that these two animals were going through, it sure made for an interesting first walk in spring.

R.E. Gehlert

HYBRID DEER

The winter of 1984 - 1985 was a fairly severe winter and a deer feeding program was instituted. Having a fair number of deer around (mostly Mule Deer and some White-tailed) took part in this program. It was surprising how soon the deer knew feed was being put out for them at evening and morning chore time. As if by magic at 8:30 in the morning and 4:30 in the afternoon deer appeared out of the tree shelterbelts. Those that had gone back to the riverbreaks were coming on the run, as if they were racing to see who could get there first.

When spring weather arrived the deer spent most of their time in the riverbreaks, and much less time at the farm. In the fall of 1985 - 1986, when the first bad weather arrived, a small herd came in and were searching for food in the area that they had been fed the previous winter.

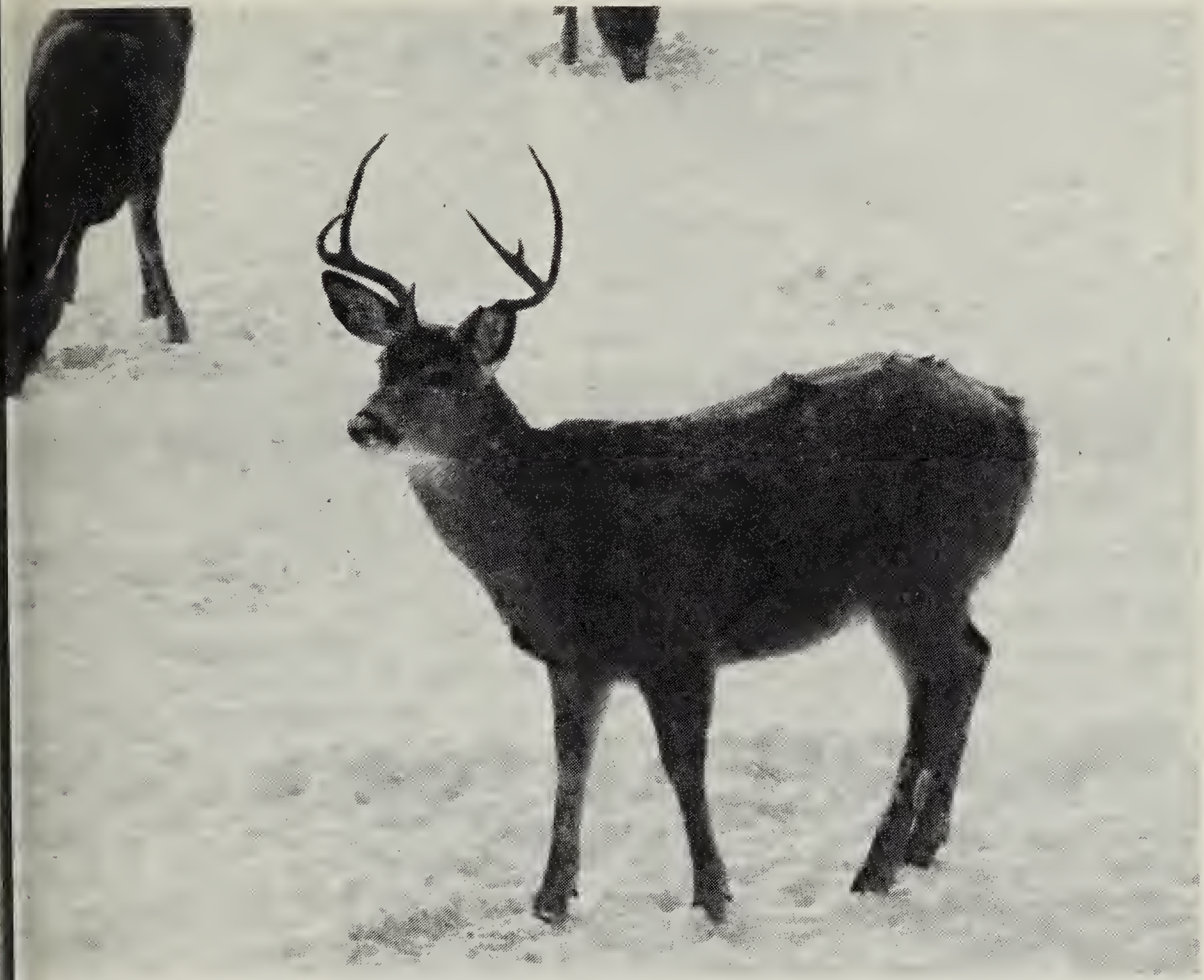
I was surprised to see that two of the Mule Deer does had White-tail fawns nursing on them. One had two and the other had one. These were soon weaned but stayed close to
mothers until spring.

The next fall, 1986 - 1987, they
back again, but the mothers had
Deer fawns. Two of the previou
spring White-tails were bucks.
were quite independent, the th
doe, followed her mother and si
The fall of 1987 - 1988 the sam
were around, except for one
White-tail bucks. It had either st
away or was taken during the hu
season. This season of 1988 the de
back again and the surviving b
now a proud specimen and th
arrived with a youngster.

I am positive that these three de
were nursing on Mule Deer do
1985 - 1986 are White-tail and
Deer crosses. It is hard to believ
Mule Deer would adopt other
Deer let alone those of another sp
We have had a White-tail buck as
ing with the Mule Deer for s
years. —*Sig Jordheim*, White Bea
atchewan. S0L 3L0

Cross doe with 1988 offspring

Sig Jo



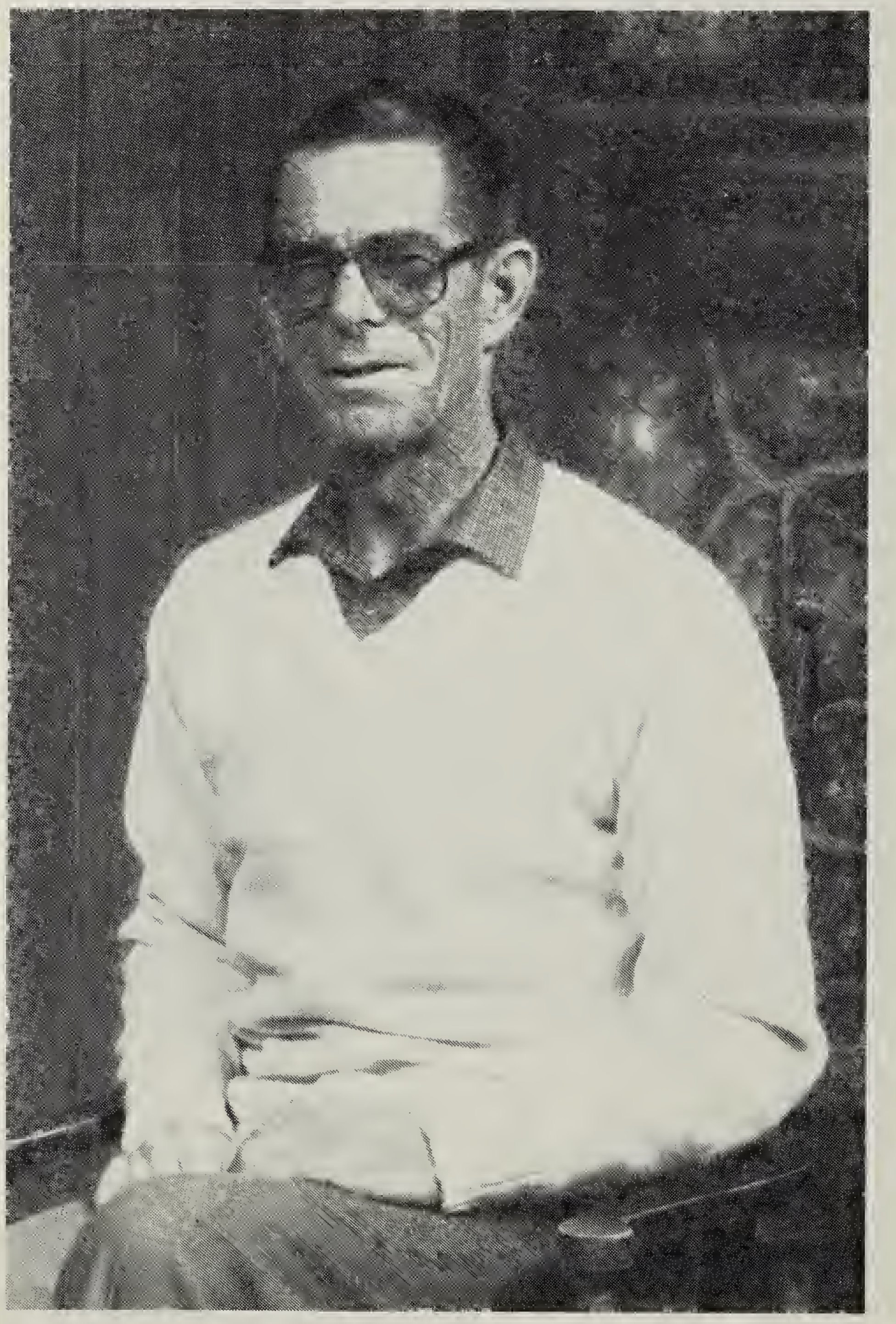
Mule X White-tailed Deer buck Sig Jordheim

SOCIETY NEWS

The Annual General Meeting of the Saskatchewan Natural History Society was held this year in Prince Albert National Park at Waskesiu. Although the weather provided the year's first snowfall, and the birds did not make a grand showing, the Elk and White-tailed Deer were present to entertain the visitors between business activities held indoors. Several of our members were honored by the presentation of a
at this meeting.

AWARDS

The Conservation Award
presented to Warren Hjertaas f
part in the development and
tenance of the Ravine Ecol
Preserve in Yorkton. Warren di
stop working for the preserve w
had been establishe
the trails and boar
completed. He re
active in his efforts
preserve by picki
garbage and mowi
trails, leading
hikes for num
groups, planning f
planting of tree
landscaping of a f
dump site adjacent
preserve, and sh
slides or giving ta
promote the pre
His activities do n
there, since he ha
been active in imp
interpretive materi
York Lake Regiona
as well as leading
hikes there and ma
ing a series of bl
trails. As president
Yorkton Natural H
Society Warren co
to work on conse
projects and serves
board of the
atchewan Natura
tory Society
provincial and f
concerns are add
in addition to loc
servation topics.



Warren Hjertaas

a Barclay receiving Larry
tch Award from Lloyd Saul
Frank Switzer

Vic Beaulieu receiving Fellowship from Lloyd Saul
Frank Switzer

re was only a small number of
ers who brought slides to show at
ening program on 13 October.
arry Morgotch Award, presented
best series of slides shown at the
ng, was given this year to Donna
y. She showed an excellent set of
graphs taken in Iceland, picturing
ter resources of that country.

to the late publication of the
of our *Blue Jay* the Cliff Shaw
tation was postponed until all the
for the year have been printed.
ward should be presented at our
nnual general meeting.

new Fellows of the Society were
this year. An unfortunate acci-
ok the life of Hans de Vogel, one
recipients, only a few days prior
meeting. A dedication to Hans
presented in the next issue of
y. Our other new Fellows are Vic
eu, Margaret Belcher and Mary
r.

Vic Beaulieu spent 33 years as Agricultural Representative at Indian Head. For 40 years he worked with the 4-H organization where he helped children learn about their environment through enjoying nature. He has been involved with the Indian Head Natural History Society, and has been its president for the past 4 years. He worked on the Fishing Lakes Special Planning Area Commission to ensure that development on these Qu'Appelle Valley lakes did not unduly damage the environment. He helped with the administration of the soil conservation program in the Indian Head district, and worked with the native agriculture program. Vic continues to be involved in environmental issues and in agriculture.

Margaret Belcher has a long association with the Saskatchewan Natural History Society and the Regina Natural History Society. An avid birder, she compiled and revised the publication *Birds of Regina*. She has spent much

Margaret Belcher recipent of fellowship in the Saskatchewan Natural History Society *Frank Switzer*

Mary Skinner recipient of fellowsh the Saskatchewan Natural Hi Society

time leading groups of birders on hikes, through which means she has introduced many people to a passion for bird watching. Margaret served in several capacities on the boards of both the local and provincial societies, and has ever been ready to take a leading role in working on conservation projects, including the preparation and presentation of briefs to government bodies. She has contributed many articles for publication in the *Blue Jay*. Margaret is now working on a history of the Saskatchewan society. She is a dedicated member and a deserving recipient of the fellowship.

Mary Skinner has spent her life in the Indian Head and Qu'Appelle Valley areas. With a life-long interest in nature and its preservation, she has been with the Saskatchewan Society for years, and she was a founding me of the Indian Head Natural H Society. She has served on the boa both these societies, and wa recipient of the Conservation Aw 1976. This award was presented for her work in conservation and f encouragement of young people come involved. Mary served o Qu'Appelle Implementation Publ visory Board and was a member Qu'Appelle Development Associ Skinner Flats was kept as a wi sanctuary by the Skinners, and tually was acquired by the goverr as a wildlife protected area. Be health problems kept Mary away the annual meeting, her neigl Marg Beaulieu accepted the awa her behalf.

SASKATCHEWAN NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY
TEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES AND FUND BALANCE (AUDITED)
ELEVEN MONTHS ENDED AUGUST 31, 1989

	1989 11 MONTHS	1988 12 MONTHS
UE		
ts - Sask Trust for Sport, Culture and ation (ST) Annual Global Funding	$ 88,259	$ 70,000
ts - Specified Programs	41,325	60,715
ts - Other	885	875
Generated		
vertising	450	490
k Shop Income	2,066	2,142
ference Registration	10,343	-
servation Sales	1,045	3,075
nations	564	2,365
rest	10,539	8,104
mberships	20,821	20,672
cial Publications	1,467	1,146
r Income	3,070	8,481
	180,841	178,065
ES		
nnel		
inistrative Salaries & Benefits	34,711	30,486
gramming - Salaries & Benefits	-	10,661
e	15,354	11,251
ization Business		
it	750	500
k Charges	25	57
nberships	130	125
ership Communication & Public Relations		
ertising & Promotion	6,827	2,145
orarium	300	1,829
Jay Journal	12,009	18,029
Jay News	4,072	5,558
and Meeting		
& Volunteer Travel	2,853	1,887
ual & Summer Meetings	(229)	6
d/Executive	114	391
ams	103,130	93,019
	180,046	175,944
E IN FUND BALANCE	795	2,121
BALANCE, BEGINNING OF YEAR	42,270	40,149
BALANCE, END OF YEAR	**$ 43,065**	**$ 42,270**

SASKATCHEWAN NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY
BALANCE SHEET AUGUST 31, 1989(AUDITED)

ASSETS

	1989 AUGUST 31	1988 SEPTEMBER 30
CURRENT		
Cash	$ 98,192	$ 53,314
Cash - Bookshop	1,613	1,803
Accounts Receivable	26,500	8,649
Accounts Receivable - Bookshop	5,309	1,312
Investments	83,016	82,327
Inventory - Bookshop	9,128	9,099
Prepaid Expenses	3,430	230
Prepaid Expenses - Bookshop	47	-
	227,235	156,734
TRUST ACCOUNT INVESTMENTS	180,891	170,295
FIXED ASSETS	29	17
	$408,155	$327,046

LIABILITIES AND MEMBERS EQUITY

	1989 AUGUST 31	1988 SEPTEMBER 30
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	$ 46,528	$ 25,210
Accounts Payable - Bookshop	3,537	1,719
Deferred Income	28,399	22,892
Bequests Trust	15,499	-
	93,963	49,821
LONG-TERM LIABILITIES		
Specified Programs	90,236	64,660
Trust Accounts	180,891	170,295
	365,090	234,955
MEMBERS EQUITY	43,065	42,270
	$ 408,155	$ 327,046

Prince Albert National Park "from atop Shady" Brac

SASKATCHEWAN NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

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